

Hafa Adai!

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POLL RESULTS

Do you support Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's election as president of the CNMI Republican Party?

Yes	32
No	188
Undecided	3
No opinion	9

Sunday, November 13, 2011

INSIDE



Free Trade

Moves toward a Pacific free trade zone gained momentum Saturday.

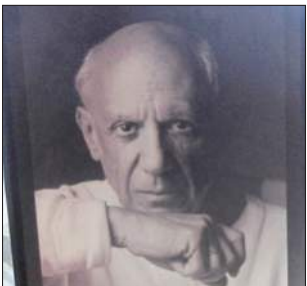
Business... Page 14



End of Era

A chorus of Handel's "Alleluia" rang out Saturday as Silvio Berlusconi resigned as Italian premier.

World...Page 16



Cali Trip

It took us two hours to completely navigate the nine galleries dedicated to Pablo Picasso's more than 150 masterpieces from the Musee National Picasso in Paris.

Life & Style...Page 18

Other lawmakers also hire contractors. **PAGE 2**
Health corporation may scrap housing perks. **PAGE 3**

Kilili joins call for restoration of \$85M funding for US territories

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) joined 10 other members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus in a push to restore to \$85.195 million the funding for U.S. territories, including the technical assistance fund that the CNMI uses for the uniforms of its police officers, outreach and training for persons with disabilities, and books for public schools, among other things.



Sablan

Sablan said the new Republican majority in the U.S. House cut funding for territories this year, and he, along with other CAPAC members, wants those assistance to territories funds restored to \$85.195 million that the previous Democratic House approved.

Others that were cut were funds used to support the Micronesian Legal Services, the Ayuda Net-

See KILILI on Page 4



IN THIRD QUARTER OF 2011

Only 2 of 39 bills introduced became laws right away, none for revenue generation

» 11 of 29 lawmakers with session absences

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Only the fiscal year 2011 budget measure and one that changes the composition of the Marianas Visitors Authority board became laws during the same quarter they

were introduced, while only at least seven of the 39 bills introduced in the third quarter of calendar year 2011 could be considered revenue-generating ones and none has so far been signed into law.

Moreover, 11 of 29 lawmakers had either one or two absences from July to

September, the quarter when a budget bill had to be deliberated on and passed.

Of the 10 bills that became public laws in the quarter under review, seven originated in the House—including Rep. Ray Basa's (Cov-Saipan) FY 2011 budget bill—and three came from the Senate, including Senate floor leader Pete Reyes' (R-Saipan) controversial Retire-

ment Fund beneficiary derivative act that some want to amend within weeks of its enactment.

Basa's budget bill was signed into law on the same quarter it was introduced; so was House Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) bill that changed the composition of the MVA board.

See BILLS on Page 4

Lauder, maker of breast cancer's pink ribbon, dies

NEW YORK (AP)—Pink was Evelyn Lauder's color.

In her long career as an executive at cosmetics giant Estee Lauder Cos., the company founded by her mother-in-law, Lauder worked with many shades of red, peach, bronze and even



AP

In this April 11, 2011 file photo, Evelyn Lauder attends the New York Women in Communications' 2011 Matrix Awards at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

blues, but pink was the one hue that changed her life.

In 1992, Lauder worked with her friend Alexandra Penney, the former editor-in-chief of Self magazine, to create the pink ribbon campaign for breast cancer awareness. It started

See LAUDER on Page 4

PINKTOBER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Dandan resident Jude Olopai receives his prizes after winning the grand prize in the raffle draw during the 2011 Pinktober event held last Friday at Hard Rock Café Saipan. Now in its second year, Pinktober was created to raise breast cancer awareness.

See story on Page 8

Local

Other lawmakers also hire contractors

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Additional members of the 17th Legislature have or are hiring independent contractors including “consultants” instead of, or in addition to, full-time government employees.

Former representative, former speaker, and former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente signed a \$2,300 consultant contract with the Senate leadership mainly on the fiscal year 2011 budget.

In a phone interview, Benavente said the contract with the Senate leadership was only for September.

Benavente is not the only for-

mer speaker that had or is having a contract with the current members of the Legislature.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) has a monthly consultant contract of \$2,500 with former House speaker and gubernatorial bet Heinz Hofschneider starting in September. Cabrera said Hofschneider is one of the most competent researchers or consultants one could have.

Vice speaker Felicidad Ogu-moro (Cov-Saipan) also has a former speaker as consultant/adviser, Pedro Deleon Guerrero.

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) also has a Maryland-based lawyer as consultant, David

Cahn, for \$300 to \$350 an hour. He served as Tenorio’s counsel when Tenorio was governor.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said he hired as consultant former representative William S. Torres before the latter became a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents.

Torres said the consultant contract was for \$3,500, an amount that the senator said he has yet to pay fully.

The senator said the contract with William Torres was to work on a federal block grant application to help “revitalize” the San Vicente basketball court, build a couple of pavilions, barbecue grill, track, playground, and

a facility similar to that of the Garapan Central Park. That application is still pending.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said he has one independent contractor—his only office employee.

Senate Floor Leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), for his part, said he has two full-time government employees since 1992.

Lawmakers in general said they prefer to hire office and community workers as independent contractors rather than as full-time government employees mainly to save costs, including not spending for the latter’s medical, retirement contribution, and other benefits.

In the House, Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said he hired attorney Mike Evangelista for about two months last year at a rate of \$500 a month.

“He drafted some bills for me,” said Deleon Guerrero.

The lawmaker said right now he has two independent contractors; one takes care mostly of the office while the other one is focused mainly on procurement matters.

Rep. Frank dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said he has one independent contractor—his office manager.

“With independent contractor, you don’t need to pay for retirement benefits and other benefits.

It’s cheaper,” he said.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said he has three independent contractors, including Dr. Jack Angello.

“I can’t afford to hire full-time government employees,” he said.

Last week, other House members were interviewed about their independent contractors while others have yet to respond to inquiries about the same matter.

Others like Rep. Edmund Vilagomez (Cov-Saipan) said they avail of the Legislative Bureau’s services in doing research and on legal advice, so they only need to hire one full-time government employee.

CUC, Georgetown to present joint petition on LEAC rate reduction

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission is expected to hear today the specific details and reasons of the proposed reduction in the existing levelized energy accrued adjustment clause, or LEAC rate, which the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the commission’s consultant, Georgetown Consulting, have earlier recommended to CPUC.

CUC deputy executive director Alan Fletcher said a final LEAC rate is expected to be presented today to the commission through a joint petition from both CUC and its consultant.

The LEAC rate is a component of the power bill that reflects the cost of fuel. It is supposed to go up or down to reflect the cost of buying fuel to run the power plants.

“We’re still meeting today to finalize the figures. We have to get through the negotiation and all the works involved with the very complex model and we’re expecting to present that final number [to PUC] tomorrow [today],” Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon.

Fletcher refused to give any figures as to CUC or Georgetown’s recommendation for a new LEAC charge.

But based on the commission announcement last week, CUC and Georgetown have filed on Oct. 27 a new LEAC rate for the period of Nov. 18, 2011 through March 31, 2012. The current LEAC rate is \$0.34426

per kilowatt-hour and was recommended to be lowered down to \$0.30265 per kWh. The PUC statement indicated that CUC and Georgetown will file position papers to the commission documenting this recommendation. After today’s public hearing on the issue, PUC is expected to make a decision on its business meeting set on Nov. 17.

But Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that because both parties have yet to reach an agreement for a new LEAC rate, he described the filing figures as “preliminary” numbers. The deputy executive director said the joint petition will be ready by Sunday evening.

Georgetown earlier said that CUC’s LEAC is unquestionably higher than required and should be reduced at the earliest date possible.

However, CUC countered this recommendation citing there was no evidence of over-recovery and asserted that the analysis is based on incorrect and unsupportable assumptions. It also said that there is no economic impact for a refund of any alleged LEAC over-collectors at this time.

Under the LEAC tariff that was established by PUC in December 2008, LEAC rate is being calculated every six months.

CUC has recommended the abolishment of the LEAC tariff and wants to develop the monthly fuel adjustment clause, or MFAC. CUC described the current calculation of LEAC as very complex.

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- Nov. 14-17, from 7:30am to 5pm
- Nov. 18, from 7:30am to 5pm

The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) Nov. 15, from 8am to 4pm.

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. **(PR)**

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Health corp. may scrap housing perks

» Issuance of housing benefits delayed for two months

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth health corporation board chair Joaquin Torres and chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta said housing perks currently being provided to hospital workers who were hired from off-island may soon be scrapped because of the health organization's shaky financial condition.

As of Friday, *Saipan Tribune* learned that off-island hires have yet to receive their housing checks for October and November which are usually released every first week of each month.

Saipan Tribune learned that public health provides \$800 monthly housing allowance to employees who were hired from outside the Commonwealth with dependants, while \$600 is provided each month for single employees. There are over 200 personnel who are presently receiving this housing allowance, mostly nurses.

"That's a possibility ... because we have to live within our means. The good old days are no longer there. Even government benefits have been scaled back and I don't believe that anybody else like the hospital workers should be getting housing allowance," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

The chairman revealed that the corporation is looking at a \$25-million operational budget for this fiscal year including the \$5 million seed money appropriated by the Legislature. This amount, he added, is not even enough to sustain the operations and expenditures of the hospital but he vowed to adhere to the budget plan.

Torres cited the delayed payroll in the government as a clear example that all agencies and departments are suffering the same challenges. "Everybody is on the same boat. Government is missing payroll, too," added the chairman.

Payroll for corporation employees, which are estimated at about 600, is still being sourced from the general fund, until a fi-

nancial system is developed and enough revenues are generated by the corporation.

Torres said this is also the reason behind the delayed issuance of housing benefits.

Babauta concurred with Torres' statement, adding that if the corporation finds that it has no capability to pay such benefits, he will recommend its scrapping.

"If we get to the point where we cannot provide anymore payment for this kind of benefit that they been having for a long time, we cannot continue it. Times are different and times are really tough now. We cannot continue to provide that kind of commitment as much as we would like to," said Babauta, adding that the corporation will re-assess the entire organization including workers' benefits. "We're going to set the level of financial commitment on what we can afford and what we cannot afford," he added.

Hospital workers interviewed by *Saipan Tribune* and who requested anonymity were disappointed upon hearing this possible action from the new corporation. However, they are hopeful that the board will reconsider any plan of scaling back housing perks.

It can be recalled that a number of hospital employees didn't receive housing perks in 2009 as a result of declining government revenues and collections. Since then, a significant number of off-island hires left the island and accepted jobs in other states. Due to numerous resignations, the housing privilege was restored in consideration of the current staffing needs of the hospital. Based on the law, allowance—upon availability of funds—could be suspended or terminated by the government.

Torres believes that the CNMI is already providing its hospital workers fair compensation and even higher compared to some other territories.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Japanese high school students get to know their counterparts from Grace Christian Academy during an activity Thursday afternoon as part of their cultural exchange program.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

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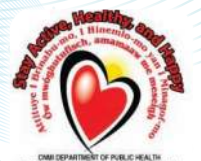
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IN FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE:

Pacific nations commit to ensuring food, water security

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Pacific Island government leaders and ministers as well as their metropolitan counterparts attending the 7th Conference of the Pacific Community in New Caledonia last week recognized the importance of ensuring that food and water security can be maintained in the face of climate change now and in coming decades.

Heads of government, ministers and ambassadors from 22 Pacific Island countries and territories and Australia, France, New Zealand and the USA met over two days at the Noumea headquarters of the region's largest development agency, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). The theme of the meeting was 'Climate Change and Food Security – Managing the Risks for Sustainable Development'.

Delegates welcomed the timeliness of the theme, which highlighted the range of projected impacts that climate change poses, particularly to food and water security in the Pacific Islands region.

The Conference emphasized the importance of a paradigm shift in thinking and planning for climate change, that is, not necessarily 'doing different business but rather doing

business differently' to determine the level of acceptable risk at all points and prepare to respond effectively.

The Conference agreed that clearly no one organization can address climate change related challenges in the Pacific region and that partnerships between development organizations such as SPC and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) were key. SPC and SPREP signed an agreement to collaborate closely on climate change issues at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) Leaders Meeting in Auckland in September.

The Conference welcomed the initiative by the heads of CROP (Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific) organizations to establish a CROP Executives Climate Change Subcommittee, which is jointly chaired by the Secretary General of PIFS and the Director of SPREP, to ensure activities undertaken by the various agencies to support island nations are streamlined and well coordinated under a 'many partners, one team' approach, in line with the Pacific Plan.

The CROP subcommittee will meet shortly to articulate the role of each agency in addressing climate change and agree on how they will

collaborate to better support Pacific Island countries and territories in their efforts to undertake adaptation initiatives nationally and engage in international forums.

SPC has also developed an internal Climate Change Engagement Strategy. As well as supporting cooperation between SPC's own technical programs covering 20 sectors, the strategy outlines how SPC will work with partners.

Among its efforts to support future food security in the Pacific Islands, SPC has just produced a report, Food Security in the Pacific and East Timor and its vulnerability to climate change, for the Australian Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, which was distributed to Conference delegates.

A highlight of the Conference was the launch of the book Vulnerability of Tropical Pacific Fisheries and Aquaculture to Climate Change. The Conference commended SPC for leading this ground-breaking scientific research project to assess the possible impacts of climate change on Pacific fisheries.

Almost 90 scientists and fisheries experts from 36 institutions around the world have contributed to this

analysis of the effects of projected changes to surface climate, the tropical Pacific Ocean, fish habitats and stocks to identify implications for future food security, economic development and livelihoods.

Representatives of the Timor Leste Government attended the Conference for the first time as observers. Regional and international development agencies and international aid donors were also represented at the two-yearly conference of SPC's governing body.

SPC's members include the 22 PICTs it serves: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna, plus its four founding members—Australia, France, New Zealand and the USA. **(SPC)**

BILLS

From Page 1

In the House, eight of 20 members were absent once or twice during eight sessions held between July and September.

Those with two absences each were Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan).

Villagomez said he had to escort his father to Guam for medical reason around the time of July 18, and he was in Hawaii for a Council of State Government-West meeting during the period of Aug. 9.

Those with one absence each were Floor Leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), and Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan).

The three House members with two absences each—Tenorio, Villagomez, and Iguel—joined six others without any bill introduced during the same period: Conner, Rep. Frank dela Cruz (R-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan), and Tebuteb.

Dela Cruz said yesterday that "right now, it's a bit pointless to introduce any type of legislation under the current leadership," citing bills that are languishing in the leadership's committees.

He cited his elected attorney general initiative which he said remains in committee.

"For me it's almost a waste of time to be introducing bills. Basically I feel the elected AG legislation is being ignored by this leadership," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The House speaker introduced the most number of bills in the third quar-

ter with six, followed by Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) with five, and Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan) with three.

Torres, who used to top the list, said yesterday he will make sure he will beat Cabrera in the number of bills introduced in the succeeding quarters.

Those who introduced two bills each were Camacho, House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Santos, and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Others with one bill introduced during the quarter included Basa, former representative Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) before stepping down in July, Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), and Maratita.

The seven House bills that became law last quarter had the following as main authors: Torres, Santos, Joe Palacios, Ray Palacios, Cabrera, Basa and Iguel. Most of these bills that were signed in July-September were introduced in the previous quarters.

The three Senate bills that became law in July to September had the following main authors: Reyes, Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota).

In the Senate, the senator with the most number of absences—two—was Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Saipan). Hofschneider and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) had one absence each.

Reyes topped senators when it came to number of bills introduced during the period under review with three, while Ayuyu and Taimanao each had two bills introduced.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), Hofschneider, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Torres each had one bill introduced.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and San Nicolas didn't introduce any bill in July to September.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Jury cancellation

This is to inform all prospective jurors for panels "VS" that the jury selections scheduled for Nov. 14, 2011, at 8:30am in courtroom 205A are hereby cancelled until further notice. For more information, contact jury coordinator Dora SN. Decena or deputy clerk Goerge Lisua at 236-9765. **(PR)**

Parents Take Over Day at MHS

Marianas High School will join thousands of school nationwide in celebrating the 90th Annual American Education Week on Nov. 13-19. As part of this celebration, MHS will be having a Parent Take Over Day on Friday, Nov. 18, to provide parents a firsthand look at

what the school day is like for their child. For more information, call the school at 237-3206 by Nov. 14, 2011. **(PR)**

UOG math contest: November problems posted

The University of Guam Division of Mathematical Sciences hosts its annual math contest again this year and has posted the problems for the month of November at www.uog.edu/mathematics.

The contest will be held each month from October 2011 through March 2012. Overall winners will be announced in April. Challenge your mathematical mind and log onto the website to view the problems. Solutions for the November contest are due

Nov. 30, 2011. Submit your solution by email to uog_math@yahoo.com.

This year we accept email submission only. Submissions must include the words "Math Contest" in the subject line of the email. In the body of the email include your name, mailing address, school, and grade. **(UOG)**

CNMI-OSHA moves to new site

The CNMI-OSHA On-site Consultation Program has moved to a new office. The new address and contact numbers are:

Government Building No. 1338
Ascencion Drive, Capital Hill
Contact No. (670) 664-3156/57
Fax No. (670) 664-3 158

LAUDER

From Page 1

small with Lauder and her husband, Leonard, largely financing the little bows given to women at department store makeup counters to remind them about breast exams.

That grew into fundraising products, congressional designation of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and \$330 million in donations—\$50 million from Estee Lauder and its partners—to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, which Lauder also started.

That money helped establish the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, which opened in 2009.

Lauder died Saturday at her Manhattan home from complications of non-genetic ovarian cancer. She was 75.

Just last month, she reminisced about the early days of the breast cancer campaign. When it launched, it was so little known that some people thought it symbolized AIDS awareness.

"There had been no publicity about

breast cancer, but a confluence of events—the pink ribbon, the color, the press, partnering with Elizabeth Hurley, having Estee Lauder as an advertiser in so magazines and persuading so many of my friends who are health and beauty editors to do stories about breast health—got people talking," she said. Then, three years after distributing the first pink ribbon, a flight attendant noted it on Lauder's lapel and said, "I know that's for breast cancer."

"From there, it became ubiquitous," she remembered.

Lauder had been diagnosed with her cancer in 2007, but it didn't slow her down much. Come each October, she appeared at cancer awareness events around the world.

The rest of the time, she went to work at Estee Lauder's Fifth Avenue headquarters, which, despite its annual revenue of \$2.48 billion, was run much like a family business. Over the years, Evelyn Lauder would hold many positions there and she helped develop its lines of skin care, makeup and fragrance.

She came up with the name of its popular Clinique brand during the

1960s. Most recently, she held the title of senior corporate vice president.

Her other passion was photography, and she was the author of the book "In Great Taste: Fresh, Simple Recipes for Eating and Living Well."

Born Evelyn Hausner in 1936 in Vienna, Austria, she fled Nazi-occupied Europe with her parents, and they settled in the U.S. She attended public schools in New York City and Hunter College, part of the City University of New York.

As a college freshman, she met her husband, the elder son of Estee Lauder and whose family owned what was then a small cosmetics company.

"We had five products in the line, we only had two or three colors in our lipsticks," she told cable news channel NY1 in 2005. "It was a baby company."

The young couple married in 1959. Leonard Lauder is now chairman emeritus of the company. Estee Lauder died in 2004 at 97.

Leonard and Evelyn Lauder's son William is executive chairman of Estee Lauder Cos. Another son, Gary, is managing director of Lauder Partners LLC, a technology investment firm.

KILILI

From Page 1

work, Red Cross, and other important needs in the CNMI, Sablan said.

Sablan and other CAPAC members wrote a Nov. 8 letter to Sen. Patty Murray and Rep. Jeb Hensarling, co-chairs of the "Super Committee" or the Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction tasked with recommending at least \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts over the next 10 years.

"CAPAC pointed out the disproportionately negative impact that cuts in health, housing, small business, and education funding will have on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. While I believe that our deficit must be reduced, we also must ensure that pro-

grams critical to the welfare of NMI residents are not detrimentally impacted," Sablan said.

In the letter that CAPAC sent to the Super Committee, they said that the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is the fastest growing minority group in the U.S. based on the 2010 Census results and this group continues to face "tremendous unmet needs" and have been "traditionally and substantially underserved by federal programs."

They asked the Super Committee to protect the territory's business development and housing programs and critical education programs, preserve important help programs, protect civil rights enforcement, and preserve critical funding for U.S. territories.

Lawyer says bank does not owe any special duties to Saipan Mayor Flores

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Union Bank of California has asserted that it does not owe any special duties to Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores who is suing Union Bank and First Ha-

waiian Bank for allegedly refusing to return the principal and interest earned of a Time Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$200,000.

Union Bank of California, through counsel Elyze McDonald Iriarte, joined the First

Hawaiian Bank's motion to dismiss Flores' lawsuit.

In the Union Bank's joinder, Iriarte said Flores asserts that banks holds various duties to him, as a holder of a certificate of deposit (CD).

Iriarte said Flores claims

that Union Bank and First Hawaiian Bank have a duty to establish and record CD accounts in their ledgers.

Iriarte said the plaintiff also claims that the banks have a duty to transfer those CD accounts upon the sale of assets, and that they have a fiduciary duty to exercise a high standard of care with respect to his investment.

"It is well-established that banks do not have any special duties to customers holding non-fiduciary accounts," the lawyer pointed out.

Iriarte said Flores has not pled the existence of any fiduciary relationship between himself and Union Bank.

"Plaintiff has not alleged any facts showing or inferring that Union Bank knew or had reason to know that it held duties other than those established by the

contractual relationship," the lawyer said.

Under such circumstances, Iriarte said, Flores has failed to state a claim for negligence, or for breach of fiduciary duty.

"Moreover, because as a matter of law Union Bank owes only contractual duties, plaintiff has no legal basis supporting his claim of breaches of tort duties by Union Bank," Iriarte said.

The Union Bank counsel said Flores' claims are based on speculation.

Iriarte said Flores alleges that perhaps the CD was properly recorded, but that Union Bank then negligently, or grossly negligently, failed to ensure that his CD account included in the sale of assets to First Hawaiian Bank.

"By these allegations, plaintiff demonstrates that both scenarios—the failure to record his CD, and the failure to include

the CD in the sale—are hypothetical and speculative," the lawyer pointed out.

Flores, through counsel Juan T. Lizama, is suing the two banks for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, negligence or gross negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud.

Lizama stated in the complaint that Flores purchased the CD in the principal amount of \$200,000 that was issued in his name by the Saipan Branch of Union Bank on Sept. 10, 1993.

Lizama said his client kept the issued certificate with the intent of eventually redeeming it.

Lizama said an officer or employee of Union Bank signed the CD.

Lizama said that on Nov. 15, 2001, Union Bank sold all assets and liabilities of its Saipan branch office to First Hawaiian Bank.



NMITI PROMOTIONS CEREMONY

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Anthony Pellegrino, founder of Northern Marianas Trades Institute, gestures as he addresses the 67 students recognized in a promotion ceremony last Tuesday.

Alpino fails to secure student loan, might stop studies abroad

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Rota High School valedictorian Katelyn Alpino may have to drop out from her pre-medicine studies at Philadelphia University after failing to secure student loans, according to her father Arthur.

Katelyn was denied financial assistance by the NMI Scholarship Office after ruling that the student was not able to reach the grade point average requirement.

This came as a surprise to the Alpino family which expected their daughter to avail of the local scholarship grant, considering she finished her high school studies on top of her class.

Mr. Alpino appealed to the scholarship board to recalculate her daughter's high school grade.

However, since last week no decision has been issued, prompting Mr. Alpino to send a follow-up letter to NMI Scholarship Office board chair Kodep Uludong, who then promised to render a decision this week.

"I've would like to inform you that my daughter might go home due to the fact that the scholarship issue has not been solved yet. Second semester enrollment is now ongoing and her school informed her of settlement of her accounts. Personal loans have been made to avert the situation but we were not approved because of our status. We were not lucky to find any co-signor/co-maker for her loan besides the loan that we have already taken," Mr. Alpino told the board chairman in his letter Saturday.

He also appealed that the board rule in favor of Katelyn so she could continue her dream of becoming a doctor.

Mr. Alpino also said her daughter has been affected by the situation. "Please, I'm begging you to let us know the outcome. My daughter is always crying and depressed about the situation. She doesn't know what to do and it's only your decision that will ease and solve this problem."

Katelyn was denied of the Honor Scholarship awards for

this semester after apparently obtaining a lower grade based on the scholarship office's calculation.

Her family filed a grievance to the Public School System, asking for recalculation of her grades. PSS affirmed the correct calculation of Alpino's grade when she was chosen valedictorian of her class.

Because of PSS' decision, the Alpino family then turned to the NMI Scholarship Office and officially appealed the student's case.



NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH

Presidential Proclamation, November 2011:

"During National Diabetes Month, we remember those we have lost to diabetes, and we stand with the millions of Americans who have been touched by its consequences. As a Nation, it is our task to reduce the incidence of this illness and offer care and support to those it affects."

— President Barack Obama

Diabetes is treatable and an eye exam is a simple thing to do that could be the difference between catching diabetes early and getting treatment, or going blind. Dr. Don Hardt and Helen He, R.N. are the CNMI's only Certified Diabetes Educators and are here to help and answer your questions, whether simple or complicated.



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Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
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Email: ross@guamcell.net

Jennifer Ross will be at:

- Friday November 18th 8:00am - 5:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **San Antonio**
- Saturday November 19th 9:00am - 1:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **Garapan**

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling

234-3975/7

Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid



Ross Hearing Aids

USCIS hosts employer Q&A sessions

»Employers-only sessions to review Form I-129CW

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) District Director David Guilick will host three sessions this week for EMPLOYERS ONLY to respond to questions about filing the Form I-129CW Application for CNMI-Only Transitional Worker.

The two-hour sessions will be held at the National Park Service's American Memorial Park indoor auditorium in Garapan. They will begin at 10am on Nov. 14, 15, and 16. Seating is available for 110 employers on

a first-come, first-served basis. The sessions will feature a review of the form and instructions, followed by a Question & Answer period about the Form I-129CW.



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Guilick will host these sessions in response to the many questions USCIS has received about Form I-129CW. The sessions are designed only to discuss Form I-129CW with employers to help them better understand what the form is asking for, so that they file petitions by Nov. 27

for workers who need to continue working when the transition period ends and current authorizations, such as umbrella permits, expire. There will be no opportunity to discuss other topics during these forums.

Guilick will explain the form and provide examples of the kinds of evidence that can be submitted with a petition. However, he will not provide legal advice of any kind. This



Guilick

means he will explain what the form is asking for; he will not tell employers what to write in the blanks on the form.

Only employers are permitted to attend these sessions. USCIS will hold public session via web conferencing, so check for announcements.

USCIS is the agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that handles immigration benefits. More information can be found at www.uscis.gov/cw, by calling (800) 375-5283 or by making an InfoPass appointment to speak with an officer at the USCIS office in Saipan. **(USCIS)**

PSS urged to include indigenous language class in high school graduation requirements

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Youth Congress is urging the Public School System to include a Chamorro and Carolinian language class to the high school curriculum which will become part of their graduation requirements.

Youth senators, in a newly passed resolution, disclosed that the native languages of the Commonwealth are slowly becoming obsolete because many of the younger generation are non-speakers of local dialects.

PSS currently is implementing a Chamorro Carolinian Language Heritage Studies program that offers classes from kindergarten to eighth grade in all public schools.

However, due to budget constraints, hiring of instructors was hampered resulting in the program being offered only in 8th grade for the middle school level and in the elementary level.

Secondary principals' representative Jonas Barcinas said yesterday the CCLHS program in the 8th grade is considered one credit and among the 11 credit requirements for a student to complete middle school. He said in the elementary level, the program is offered as a regular subject for each grade level, along with the content areas.

Barcinas is in favor of allowing the program to be extended to high school and be among the graduation credit requirements in order to provide "consistency" and "continuity" of instruction.

He said under the current Board of

Education policy, a senior student has to complete 28 credit requirements in order to graduate in high school and CCLHS, or any related classes, are not offered even as part of their electives.

Barcinas said this issue has been discussed even as high as the PSS leadership level. It needs to consider various factors before making any recommendation to the board. One of these factors is the budget in hiring instructors and additional classrooms for the program.

PSS earlier disclosed that 8th grade students in CNMI middle schools failed to meet the benchmarks set by the PSS on its CCLHS curriculum for SY 2009-2010. To improve the "significantly low" performance recorded by students, BOE has ap-

proved the increase of the CCLHS credit requirement from .05 credit to one credit last year.

Saipan Tribune learned that the 8th graders who receive Carolinian instructions in SY 2009-2010 show that 76 percent did not meet the standards. For the 8th grade Chamorro, 72 percent failed the requirements.

It was also disclosed that CCLHS teachers taught on a rotating daily schedule (rotating between CCLHS, and wellness and health, journalism, agriculture, etc.). By semester, teachers taught CCLHS one semester while the other semester was for wellness and other electives.

Barcinas told Saipan Tribune that despite the increased credit for the program, he believes that more instructional time should be provided to students in order to improve the records. He said the expansion of the program to high school will help in achieving PSS' goal of preserving the local languages.

Camacho Equipment files bankruptcy

Camacho Equipment Co. Inc. filed last week a bankruptcy petition before the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Camacho Equipment Co., through counsel Timothy Bellas, filed a Chapter 7 petition.

Under a Chapter 7 petition, most assets of the debtors are liquidated as quickly as possible to pay off his or her debts over a period of three to five years.

Bellas listed over 20 creditors that the company owes a total of \$366,325.85.

Bellas said the company's total assets is only \$103,638.33 which consists of personal property.

Among the listed creditors are the U.S. Treasury/Internal Revenue Service and the CNMI Revenue & Taxation that hold secured and unsecured claims in the amount of \$43,636.11 and \$90,600.64 respectively.

Camacho Equipment is the sixth to file bankruptcy in federal court so far this year.

The all-time highest record of bankruptcy cases was in 2005 when 31 cases were recorded.

One of the main reasons why many cases were filed in 2005 was because the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act took effect beginning that year. The Act increased the filing fee and made bankruptcy petitions stricter, among other things. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



CUC-RFEI-12-001

Requests for Expressions of Interest For the Purchase or Operation of Public Utilities (A Non-Binding, Informal Market Survey)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), a public corporation, is interested in the potential for privatization of its services. Desired is for interested firms, individuals, or groups to present an "Expression of Interest" for the privatization and/or transfer of CUC Utility Services. Expressions of Interest may include in whole, in part, or in business sector: direct purchase, operating contract schemes, and/or utility agency or co-operative formation(s) for the Electrical Power Generation Systems, Electrical Transmission and Distribution Systems, and Water and Wastewater Utility Services.

The Request for Expressions of Interest is an exploratory project in order to survey market interest in owning and/or operating the utility. It is not intended to be a formal or informal procurement process and CUC does not express or imply that any future procurement and/or acquisition process will occur, or that any preference will be given to those replying.

The CUC invites suitably qualified utility owners and operators with proven records of accomplishment in power generation, transmission, distribution, and water and wastewater utility ownership and operations to submit an EOI to purchase and operate the referenced CUC operations and facilities. CUC will review all Expressions of Interests received, and based in part on these submittals, will decide on whether to pursue privatization further. This EOI is an exploratory survey of market interest only.

The CUC-RFEI-12-001 packet will be e-mailed, upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted by hand or courier in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFEI-12-001" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 16, 2011 (ChST). Late submission will not be considered.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on December 12, 2011 to Alan Fletcher, Deputy Director for Water/Wastewater via email alan.fletcher@cucgov.org; Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika.muna@cucgov.org. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective respondents who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-12-002

Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from DEQ certified firms to provide laboratory services for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package and Scope-of-Work may be obtained, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 (non-refundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-12-002, CUC Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 28, 2011 at 10:00 AM, (ChST)**. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 17, 2011** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net; Janina Muna, Administrative Assistant, Procurement & Supply via email mika.muna@cucgov.org with a copy to Heidi Yelin, CUC Laboratory Manager via email lab@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Federal court OKs another delay of ex-cop's trial in police brutality case

The federal court has granted the request by the prosecution and the defense counsel to delay again the jury trial of a former police offi-

cer who is facing charges of using excessive force while making a false arrest of two men when he was still with the Department of

Public Safety.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Thursday set Feb.

7, 2012 as the new jury trial date for Francisco S. Pangelinan.

Manglona ordered the parties to file pretrial motions by Jan. 12, 2012.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, court-appointed counsel for Pangelinan, and assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe agreed to continue the trial.

Judge Manglona accepted the stipulation.

Torres also asked the court to modify the defendant's release conditions.

Backe as well as the U.S. Probation Office did not object.

Judge Manglona granted Pangelinan's motion to modify the release conditions.

The trial was originally set for Aug. 22, 2011. The trial was moved to Nov. 1, 2011 then continued again to Dec. 19, 2011.

The parties cited that the case agent for the FBI will not be available on Dec. 19 and that the prosecutor, who was only recently assigned to the case, requires more time for preparation.

The parties also have discussed and continue to talk on non-trial disposition of the case.

The prosecution and the defense counsel have also agreed to modify the bail conditions to allow Pangelinan to attend to his gravely ill grandmother as well as assist with the transportation and care of his daughter.

The house arrest and electronic monitoring conditions

were imposed on Pangelinan on belief that his substance abuse use may pose a challenge for him.

The parties agreed that the treatment and continued monitoring have sufficed to show a period of compliance and that Pangelinan will comply with all conditions.

Pangelinan was indicted on three counts of deprivation of rights under color of law. He has pleaded not guilty.

According to the indictment, on July 6, 2010, Pangelinan as then police officer, sprayed pepper mace into the eyes of two men, resulting in bodily injury. He allegedly arrested one of them without probable cause.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

Teenager gets 5-day jail term for rock throwing

A teenager who figured in a rock throwing with a friend during a drinking session at a house in Chalan Kanoa District 3 was given a five-day jail term.

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Darren Michael to six months in prison, all suspended except for five days, for assault—a lesser included offense of assault with a dangerous weapon.

In a written order issued last week, Wiseman gave the 18-year-old Michael credit for the time he already served in jail.

It means that Michael will no longer serve more jail term.

Wiseman placed the defendant on supervised probation for one year and required him to pay a \$100 fine, \$100 probation fee,

and \$25 court assessment fee.

The judge ordered the defendant to pay restitution to Roselle Carreon and also write a letter of apology to her for damaging her car.

During the probationary period, Michael is prohibited from consuming any alcoholic beverages. He was also required to submit to an examination focusing on anger management and alcohol/substance abuse at the Community Guidance Center.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendant with assault with a dangerous weapon, and minor consuming alcohol.

Michael signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to


assault. The OAG dismissed the remaining charge as part of the plea bargain.

Detective Jonathan SN. Decena stated in his report that a police officer had responded to a residence in Chalan Kanoa on July 28, 2011 after receiving a call about a disturbance.

Decena said investigation showed that Michael and Tolove Bokuku got into a fight due to misunderstanding after they were drinking alcohol.

Michael threw a rock at Bokuku, but missed. Bokuku threw rocks back at Michael.

Detective Decena said that, while the police officer was talking with a witness, Michael started yelling and cursing at the officer. The officer arrested the teenager. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



Please come and join us for the Third Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic!

The Third Annual THTC kicks off at the American Memorial Park on Thursday evening, November 17, and will continue all day Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at AMP, Pacific Islands Club, Fiesta Resort and Spa, and Hyatt Regency.

The first week's events include 10 & under junior short court singles and doubles, and adult singles and mixed doubles (skill and age levels—2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, and 40+ yrs.).

Registration for the first week is due by Thursday, November 10.

The following week, November 23, 25–27, the THTC continues with junior long court singles and doubles (age levels—10s, 12s, 15s, & 18s), and adult men's and women's doubles (skill and age levels—2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, and 40+ yrs.).

Registration for the second week is due by Thursday, November 17.






Entry forms are available at the tournament headquarters, AMP, or online at www.tanholdings.com/tennis_2011.

Draws, when made, will also be available at AMP and online.







Players must check the draws to find your starting match time, and players must also check in at AMP prior to their first match. All first week players, regardless of their starting match time, are encouraged to check in at AMP on Thursday evening, November 17.

www.tanholdings.com/tennis_2011








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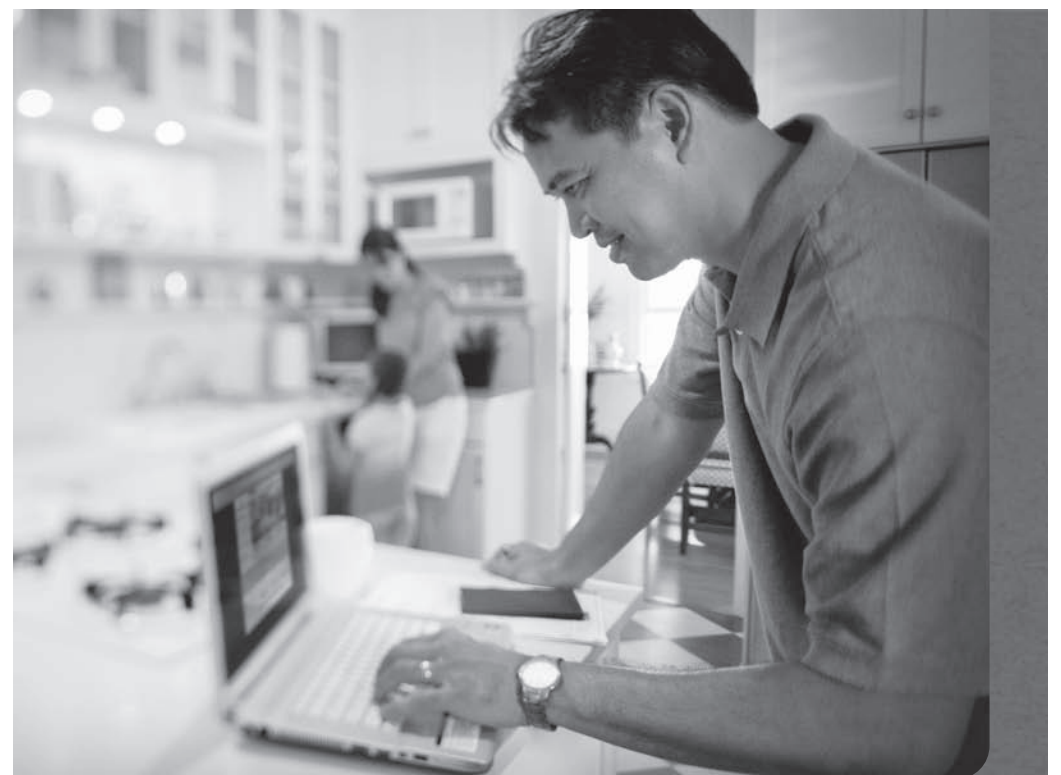






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Over 200 support Pinktober at Hard Rock

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hard Rock Café Saipan put the pink in Pinktober in aid of this year's breast cancer awareness campaign in the CNMI and the rest of the world.

The event held last Friday—the propitious 11/11/11—brought together local musicians, cancer survivors and their loved ones, as well as other community members all in support of a great cause.

Friday's event featured high-energy performances from Unplugged Band, Retro Jazz, Bad-joe and Ariane, Sublime Dignity Band, the father-and-daughter tandem of Jerry & Jan, The Sai Band, Fatal Hitz, Lion of Judah, High Pitch, and Rated R.

Over 200 folks partied in pink at the event which cost only \$11 per person inclusive of one free drink. Percentage of the proceeds will go to Commonwealth Cancer Association, a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting cancer awareness and prevention, providing patient support services, and serving as the liaison and advocate for cancer issues in the CNMI.

Ticket buyers had the chance to win exciting prizes,



A local band performs for the 2011 Pinktober crowd last Friday at the Hard Rock Café Saipan.

including the grand prize that included a brand new HTC phone from IT&E, \$100 travel voucher from Delta Air Lines, and a gift certificate from National Alamo Car Rental.

Dandan resident Jude Olopai was that night's lucky winner. In an interview after receiving his prize, he said he bought "a whole bunch of tickets" to support the international campaign to fight breast

cancer awareness.

"I absolutely think that a lot of people should support breast cancer awareness efforts," said Olopai, who disclosed that he has two family members battling the disease. "The reason I wanted to express my support was because of them."

During the program, cancer survivor Maggie Camacho intimately shared her story about how she felt "scared" and "so alone" when she was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 53 and encouraged all women to get detected through regular examinations with their physicians. A slide presentation highlighting breast cancer survivors and awareness events was also shown that night.

This year's Pinktober event also featured a silent auction of donated items as part of its fund-raising initiative. DFS Saipan donated two Coach Top Handle Clutches which went to Pat Seman and Robert R. while the Folli Follie watch went to Steve

Jang; Barry Wonenberg donated Rainbow Runner ceramic which went to Joe Taijeron; Images Saipan donated Saipan Sunset Photograph which went to Patricia Gershak; and Saipan Sunset Cruise donated a romantic Cocktail Cruise for two which went to Alan Carrasco.

As the event drew to a close, candles were lit in support of those who are still fighting the good fight, those who have survived it, and to honor those who have passed away because of the most common cancer among women across the nation.

"It was an awesome night. I think we even surpassed last night's turnout. Once again, the community showed its overwhelming support for breast cancer awareness," Hard Rock Café Saipan operations manager Reynaldo Perez told *Saipan Tribune*.

With the success of the second year of Pinktober celebration on Saipan, Perez said they hope to do it again next year.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 14, 2001

Babauta: Smooth transition is priority

The incoming Babauta administration has no immediate plans of implementing any major reorganization in the Executive Branch, saying its primary goal at the moment is ensuring a smooth transition between the current and new administration. Speaking before the Rotary Club of Saipan during their regular meeting at the Hyatt Regency-Saipan yesterday noon, Governor-elect Juan N. Babauta said he has no plans of getting rid of some Executive Branch offices since most were established by law and "certainly that is something that I can't unilaterally do." "Even so, even if I want to reorganize an office or a series of offices, I would need to seek approval from the Legislature anyway. But there is no plan for any major reorganization in the Executive Branch," he stressed.

NMI beefs up efforts to develop fisheries

The government has underscored the need to intensify its efforts in providing local fishermen with the necessary technical and financial assistance in order to develop the CNMI's rich marine resources. Alarmed by recent hardships experienced by the local tourism and apparel industries, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio stressed the need to fast-track efforts to develop CNMI's agriculture potentials. At the same time, government leaders said there is also a need to develop the Commonwealth's fisheries-related infrastructure to entice more local participation to the sector. Concerns on the development of the fisheries sector has been common among the island-nations in the Western Pacific Region.

Nov. 14, 2002

Legislator cited over protected bats

The CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife imposed a \$5,000-fine against Rep. Daniel Quitugua for bringing to Saipan six Mariana fruit bats—a protected species—from Rota. The congressman was given 14 days to settle his obligation. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources also said a quarantine officer who allowed Quitugua's entry with the fruit bats may be subjected to disciplinary actions. But the congressman, in an interview, said he just mistakenly brought the fruit bats from his father's home in Rota, thinking that the bag he carried to the airport contained his lobsters.

Mayor asked to withhold salary hikes

The Saipan Mayor's Office is moving toward increasing the salaries of some of its staff, prompting Finance Secretary Frankie Villanueva to appeal to Mayor Juan B. Tudela to hold off on the increases due to the government's wobbly cash position. This follows a similar letter that Villanueva wrote to the Legislative Bureau, which has also submitted notifications to the Department of Finance expressing its intent to hike the salaries of its employees. In his letter to Tudela, Villanueva acknowledged receiving the notifications for personnel action increasing the salaries of the employees of the Mayor's Office.

Nov. 14, 2003

House revives vetoed bills

The House of Representatives yesterday mustered the three-fourths majority required to revive pieces of legislation that Gov. Juan N. Babauta vetoed last week. In its first session following the midterm election, the lower house reintroduced and passed the proposed Tax Code amendment (House Bill 13-355), the Retirement Act (HB 13-356) and the measure to establish the Commonwealth Hospital Corporation (HB 13-357). The three were among the 12 bills Babauta rejected last Friday consistent with the administration's position that "until the question of whether the Senate had the requisite quorum present to conduct business from August 27, 2003 is answered by the Court, the administration cannot know with certainty which bill was constitutionally enacted by the Legislature."

NMC: More than \$500K still missing

The Northern Marianas College said that it has accounted for some \$527,900 questioned costs cited by the federal authorities for fiscal years 1997 to 2000. At the same time, it has yet to account for some \$544,700 in questioned federal money. In an FY 2003 report, NMC financial and administrative services director David Atalig said that \$527,937 of the over \$1 million questioned costs was "deemed potentially resolved." The remaining amount, \$544,730, remains "unresolved" as of Oct. 18, 2003. "Work is still continuing to address the questioned costs related to federal programs raised in the FY 1997 to 2000 audits," said Atalig.

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Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315



COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at 10:00 A.M. at the CRM Conference Room, Springs Plaza, Middle Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION**

Galaide Estate Villas — CRM Permit no. SMS-2011-X-063

 - a. Permit application/summary by CRMO
 - b. Discussion by CRM Agencies/CRMO
 - c. Permit Status (CRMO/CRM Agencies)
- III. OTHER MATTERS**
- IV. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

RITA C. CHONG - DELACRUZ
Administrator



Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND
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OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

APPROXIMATELY 14,666 SQ. FT. PRIME OFFICE SPACE

The Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF) is soliciting proposals to lease approximately 14,666 square feet of prime office space on the second and third floors (approximately 7000 sq.ft. per floor) of the Retirement Fund Building on Capitol Hill, Saipan. Ideally located across from the Governor's Office and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, the building has a backup generator, 24-hour water service, and ample parking space for employees and visitors. Space is available for viewing immediately.

Minimum acceptable terms include the following:

- Per square foot per month, Triple Net (higher for less than full available footage);
- Lessee responsible for own utilities, as well as cost to separately meter;
- 24 months minimum lease term; and
- First month, last month and reasonable security deposit required (amount depends on credit history and financial strength of Lessee).

All proposals are subject to acceptance by the NMIRF Board of Trustees in its sole discretion.

/s/ RICHARD S. VILLAGOMEZ
Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipattamenton I Tano’ Publiku

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE

In accordance with Public Law 5-33, Section 4(b) (3) the Public Purpose Land Exchange Authorization Act, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to enter into an exchange agreement to certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the exchange of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 5-33, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The purposed of the land exchange is to acquire a private property for public purpose. The private property is described as EA 852-1-1, containing an area of 5,820 square meters, more or less, situated in As-Lito, Saipan.
- ii. The public land to be exchange is described as Lot 099 D 22, containing an area of 5,820 square meters more or less, located in Navy Hill, Saipan.
- iii. The private property is owned by Ms. Brenda Cabrera Manglona a resident of Saipan.
- iv. A copy of the proposed land exchange agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan.
- v. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before December 14, 2011 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NOTISIA POT MAPROPONEN MA’ATULAKAN TANO’ PUBLIKU

Sigun gi halom I Lai Publiku 5-33 Seksiona 4 (b)(3), Public Purpose Land Exchange Act, I Depattamenton I Tano’ Publiku guini ha na’i notisia i intension-na para u ma’atulaikan pumalu na tano’ publiku siha gi halom Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan Na Islan Marianas siha. Maseha hayi manentiresao na petsona siha gi halom I publiku henera siha munna’halom infotmasion, opiñon, pat testimonion kinentra gi tinahguen i propositu siha para I uma’atulaikan I tano’ publiku. Komu mas mapribeniya ginen Lai Publiku 5-33, pettanesen infotmasion ni dinimanda na para u mapuplika.

- i. I maproponen i ma’atulaikan tano’ para uma’chule I tano’ private para uson publiku. I diskripsion I tineteka na tano’ komo EA 852-1-R1, kinensisiste i aria 5,820 na dinankulon tano, potlumenus mas, gaige giya As-Lito, Saipan.
- ii. I diskripsion i tano’ publiku Lot 099 D 22, kinensisite i aria 5,820 square meters, potlumenus ma, gaige giya Navy Hill, Saipan.
- iii. I dwennon tano’ si Sinora Brenda Cabrera Manglona, residente Saipan.
- iv. I kopian a maproponen i ma’atulaikan tano’ siha machule’ gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku, gaige gi sigundo bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan.
- v. I Secretarian i Depattamenton Tano’ Publiku para hu aksepta I tinigi’i opiñon, pat testimonion kinentra gi tinahguen i mapropone na ma’atulakan tano’ publiku antes osino gi dia Decembre 14, 2011 gi Depattamenton Tano’.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL SIIWELIL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sangi Alléghul Toulap 5-33 Section 4 (b)(3), Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Faluweer Toulap ekki atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe siiwel eghus faluw mellol Seipél, Commonwealth Téel Faluwasch Marianas. Schóoka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghighiir, aweewe, aingiingi reel pomwol siiwel yeel. Alléghu Toulap ye 5-3 Section 4 (b)(3) e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- i. Pomwol siiwelil faluweer toulap nge ekki bwáári EA 852-1-R1, eyoor ruwabwúghúw eliigh me eew (5,820 square meters), elapeló me ngare eghus, elo San Roque, Seipél. Tilighial buley yeel nge, eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Faluweer Toulap ngare óbwe ghuley fischey.
- ii. Faluweer toulap yeel nge Lot 099 D 22, eyoor ruwabwúghúw eliigh me eew 5,820 lapel faluw ye, elo Marpi, Seipél.
- iii. Ms. Brenda Cabrera Manglona elollo , Seipél, yaal faluw ye ebwe siiwel ngale faluweer toulap.
- iv. Tilghial siiwel yeel nge emmwel óbwe bwughi mereel mwulasiyool Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, elo aruwowal (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building loll Tuturam, Seipel.
- v. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal Tumwur 14, 2011, mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye elo Seipé.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
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- i. The purposed of the land exchange is to acquire a private property for public purpose. The private property is described as Lot No. 394, containing an area of 40,000 square meters, more or less, situated in San Roque, Saipan.
- ii. The public land to be exchange is described as Lot 003 A 23, containing an area of 40,000 square meters more or less, located in Marpi, Saipan.
- iii. The private property is owned by The Heirs of Fabiana Nekkai a resident of Tanapag, Saipan.
- iv. A copy of the proposed land exchange agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan.
- v. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before December 14, 2011 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

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- i. I maproponen i ma’atulaikan tano’ para uma’chule I tano’ private para uson publiku. I diskripsion I tineteka na tano’ komo Lot No. 394, kinensisiste i aria 40,000 na dinankulon tano, potlumenus mas, gaige giya San Roque, Saipan.
- ii. I diskripsion i tano’ publiku Lot No. 003 A 23, kinensisite i aria 40,000 square meters, potlumenus ma, gaige giya Makpi, Saipan.
- iii. I dwennon tano’ si The Hiers of Fabiana Nakkai, residenten Tanapag, Saipan.
- iv. I kopian a maproponen i ma’atulaikan tano’ siha machule’ gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku, gaige gi sigundo bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan.
- v. I Secretarian i Depattamenton Tano’ Publiku para hu aksepta I tinigi’i opiñon, pat testimonion kinentra gi tinahguen i mapropone na ma’atulakan tano’ publiku antes osino gi dia Decembre 14, 2011 gi Depattamenton Tano’.

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- i. Pomwol siiwelil faluweer toulap nge ekki bwáári Lot 394, eyoor ruwabwúghúw eliigh me eew (40,000 square meters), elapeló me ngare eghus, elo San Roque, Seipél. Tilighial buley yeel nge, eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Faluweer Toulap ngare óbwe ghuley fischey.
- ii. Faluweer toulap yeel nge Lot No. 003 A 23, eyoor ruwabwúghúw eliigh me eew 40,000 lapel faluw ye, elo Marpi, Seipél.
- iii. The Hiers of Fabiana Nekkai elollo Tanapag, Seipél, yaal faluw ye ebwe siiwel ngale faluweer toulap.
- iv. Tilghial siiwel yeel nge emmwel óbwe bwughi mereel mwulasiyool Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, elo aruwowal (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building loll Tuturam, Seipel.
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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EDITORIAL

US can spur more reforms by ending Cuba boycott

What happens in Cuba normally stays in Cuba, largely because the communist government is so effective in tightly controlling every facet of life on the island. So it's big news whenever the government eases that grip, as it did recently by enacting the most significant property-ownership reforms since the 1959 revolution.

Raul Castro, brother and presidential successor to long-time dictator Fidel Castro, declared that Cubans will be allowed to own, buy and sell property—a first for the island since 1959.

For Americans accustomed to life in the capitalist world, it might be easy to dismiss such a development as no big deal. But in Cuba, the state has long held the role of buyer and seller of property and keeper of profits. People have been allowed to continue living in the houses they owned before the revolution and to engage in an informal barter system, but buildings and land have legally been the Communist state's property.

The reforms mean that billions of dollars in property soon could become marketable. Suddenly, thousands of Cubans will experience a level of newly created wealth unlike anything in their experience. An instant middle class is poised to emerge.

Where, before, the average Cuban worker had to survive on a meager salary of \$20 a month, the circulation of additional thousands of dollars from car and real estate sales promises to open vast new consumer markets.

And companies from around the world, except for the United States, stand to benefit because they are allowed to conduct business with Cuba and send their citizens there for tourism. Americans cannot because of a five-decade boycott that is as anachronistic and ineffectual as the Communist regime itself.

It is time to end the boycott and allow U.S. companies to dive in to a Cuban market starved of American goods and services.

Our reasoning is simple. It is clear from the results of the U.S. boycott of Cuba, in effect since 1962, that economic sanctions have utterly failed to budge the Communist regime from power. But the potential flood of U.S. dollars from commerce and tourism, combined with the new easing of property laws for Cubans, holds much greater promise of overwhelming the island's strained and archaic economic structure.

The few U.S. businesses allowed to circumvent the boycott, including the Texas farmers who reap a large share of the \$2.8 billion in total American agricultural exports to Cuba, understand that a big market is going untapped.

Of course, all of this depends on whether the Castro government honors its promises. But Cubans are ready to awaken from a 50-year economic slumber. The time has never been riper for the United States to seize opportunity and end the boycott.

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Where o' where is our trust and faith?

As a small boy I trusted my mother and father without questioning. I was taught to trust my brother and sister. In school I trusted my teachers to teach me. As I grew older I learned to trust friends. In marriage I trusted my spouse. At work I tried to trust my fellow employees. I hope some people also did trust me.

As I matured I experienced people who broke their trust to me. When the anger and disappointment settled, I tried to understand why. So it went. For most of my adult life, I stumbled along not really understanding what trustworthiness really means. But as I consider the social mess we are in today, let's discuss this most important word to seek its true meaning.

We will notice that the word "faith" creeps up. Trust and faith are inseparable. Somewhere along the road to a better society, we have lost trust and faith in others and, sadly too often, in ourselves.

Trust is both an emotional and a logical act. Emotionally, we expose our vulnerabilities to people. But we believe that they will not take advantage of our openness. Logically, we assess the possibility of gain or loss and conclude that the person in question will behave in a predictable manner. In practice, trust is a bit of both. I trust you because I have experienced your trustworthiness and because I have faith in human nature.

We feel trust. Emotions associated with trust include companionship, friendship, love, agreement, relaxation and comfort. Trust means being able to predict what other people will do and what situations will occur.

If we surround ourselves with people we trust, then we can create a safe present and an even better future. We find that trustworthy people are reliable and responsible.

Trust also involves a value exchange. Most of what we do with other people is based around exchange, which is the basis for all businesses as well as simple relationships. For example, a parent exchanges attention for love. A company exchanges not only pay but good working conditions for intellectual and manual effort for our work.

In other words, trust means making an exchange with someone when we do not have full knowledge about them, their intent and the things they are offering us. Consider all the promises we hear at election time from candidates mouthing off on all the benefits they will be showering upon us the gullible voter when they are elected. Do you begin to see where we are headed in this discussion? Trust! Faith! How much do we still possess? Where are they?

Let's ask ourselves several questions. The answers will be personal. Do we trust our fellow employees? How much? Do we trust our leaders? How much? Do we trust the direction in which we are being led? How much? Who do we trust is telling us the truth? Can we trust what we are daily told by our leaders? How much?

How did we become so bankrupt? Was it done overnight or over a period of time? Has our belief in our political system of democracy eroded? Why do we have little trust in the utility company that is fast destroying all economic activity? What happened to the trust in the Retirement Fund? Has our trust and faith in our ability to rebuild our economic system vanished? Is there anyone in our society in whom we feel we can place our trust and faith to help us? Please ask

By **ANTHONY PELLEGRINO**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



ourselves these questions and think hard on our answers.

I could cite many cases of blatant abuse of our trust. We have been betrayed and yet we sit silently and allow it to continue. No, I am not pointing fingers at anyone. I am to blame as much as anyone for allowing our loss of trust to happen. But by asking us to answer the above questions, I hope to stimulate us to wake up and begin taking control of our society and lead us back to sanity.

Repeatedly I keep saying that we have great possibilities and opportunities to help ourselves. However we have become lethargic, almost senseless, feeling no pain. We have lost trust in our capabilities.

We keep touting tourism as our major industry. Yet we do little to develop the reasons why tourists should come here. We do little to beautify and clean our tourist sites. Do we feel joy when we see a group of civic minded citizens collect hundreds of pounds of trash? Why do so many of our citizens insist on spilling their trash in our lovely parks and in our streets? If our streets are full of trash, how much trash is in our government houses?

Where is the faith that we can produce great amounts of food products to sell to our neighbors? Don't we trust ourselves that we can do it? Why do we keep asking for outside help without first trying to help ourselves? We are full of bountiful opportunities. Why aren't we helping ourselves more? Do we lack the trust and faith in our citizens and ourselves to create them?

Do I sound frustrated? Yes, I am. That is why I am pleading to all of us—let us screw up trust and faith in ourselves and in one another and begin to create the life we desire. In my life span, I have seen villages and countries rejuvenate themselves even under worse conditions that we are experiencing now.

When we begin to ask questions on how we can help our society and less on how we can help ourselves—this is the first step. We must create a political band of brothers and sisters. We need to come together, not splintered as political parties growling for power. We need teammates and surrogates. It's about establishing a common effort with proven people of trust. We need to establish bonds of trust and faith in our future.

Our dilemma happened over a period of time and under several leaderships, but who will turn it around and bring back the trust that has been lost during this period? Who is willing to risk his all to fix the dilemma we are mired in? Who will step forward and convince us to follow him? Is there a leader just waiting to lead?

Read what former President Kennedy said in a speech delivered at the American University in 1963:

"Our problems are man-made; therefore they can be solved by
See FAITH on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Obama the man and the Hu man at APEC

Twelve nations established the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group in 1989. Bob Hawke of Australia called for effective economic cooperation within the region. Canberra hosted the first meeting. Bill Clinton followed it with a leaders meeting on Blake between Vashon and Bainbridge islands of the Puget Sound west of Seattle, Washington State. APEC was to temper the expected economic growth of China, the awakened tiger of the east. Member “economies” as opposed to countries seek to promote free trade and economic cooperation, focusing on trade liberalization and business facilitation. The beat on economies rather than political units allow Taiwan, mainland China, and Hong Kong to sit around the same table as separate entities.

The group’s leaders meeting this year is hosted in Honolulu Nov. 12-13, with President Obama of the U.S. and President Hu Jintao of China in attendance.

Barrack Hussein Obama II is Good Morning America’s surprise with a meteoric rise after keynoting the Democratic Party at the Party convention of 2004, becoming the 44th President in 2009, overcoming the popular Party stalwart and frontrunner Hillary Clinton in the primaries, and the challenge of folk hero GOP Senator John McCain of the Hanoi Hilton fame in the national elections.

Obama defied all kinds of limits. He is the first president of African-American descent, born in Hawaii to a Kansas Caucasian English-Irish mother and a Lou Kenyan foreign student father who met in a Russian language class at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. Obama characterized his parents as “white as milk and black as pitch,” they united before the Supreme court struck the Virginia Anti-miscegenation statute (1967) and decreed the Racial Integrity Act of 1924 unconstitutional.

Obama grew up in Indonesia with Muslim public school playmates, attended the elite prep school of Punahou in Honolulu, studied at Occidental College in L.A., transferred to Columbia for PolySci and International relations for a B.A., and later to Harvard to become a civil rights lawyer, after a stint in a Southside Chicago community organizing ala Saul Alinsky. Crafting a mainstream course, Obama attracts the worst traits of the American political spectrum but capturing the long term hopes and dreams of a nation that earned him the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2009.

President Hu Jintao is a practical technocrat, the first of China’s leaders without militant revolutionary credentials. He was Communist Party secretary in Guizhou and the Xizang (Tibet) Autonomous Region before becoming first Secretary of the CPC Secretariat and Vice-President under former leader Jiang Zemin. With amiable and genial colleague Premier Wen Jiabao, they presided over a period of consistent economic growth that has since catapulted China as a major world power. Hu and his colleagues in the Politburo are children of the scientific era making its methods the basis of cognition and planning for the future, yet Sino-rooted to adopt a ‘harmonious society’ without invoking the superstitious luggage of the practices of taiji/yin-yang in their ancestry.

Hu’s pursuit of peaceful development adopted a soft power approach in international relations and a business oriented bent on diplomacy. Hu projects the image of a clean and trustworthy communal face.

FAITH

From Page 10

man. And man can be as big as he wants. No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings. Man’s reason and spirit have often solved the seemingly unsolvable—and we believe they can do it again.”

What is missing now is a spirit of adventure, of common purpose, a positive feeling, even romance about the times for meeting our challenges in our society, a stirring local cadence, a sense of mission. We must stop the feeling of defeat. We must begin to trust and have faith both in our fellow man and in ourselves. We did once before. And we can do so again. We must learn from our mistakes.

As long as we remain afraid and complacent, we will remain where we are. As long as we do not trust and have faith, we will remain where we are. We—you and I—are responsible for where we are today. Believe it or not, we tolerate our present situation. Once we accept these remarks and accept the fact as President Kennedy said: “No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings. Man’s reason and spirit have often solved the seemingly unsolvable.” Once we believe this, we can do it again!

Let us join together and create the fires needed to forge trust and faith. At least think about my thoughts as you go about your chores. But remember to SMILE!!! Make the other person smile too. A big smile is contagious.

Obama’s Dreams from My Father and The Audacity of Hope and the award-winning following of his campaign slogan Yes We Can, gives him high ratings in imagination, communication ability and intelligence among US Presidents, ranking 15 out of 43 in a poll of some 280 presidential scholars. Obama projects the image of lucid and dependable self-conscious personality.

It is this image difference, the face of harmony of one and the persona of hope of the other that saw the lime lights of Waikiki this weekend, learned to dance the graciousness of the hula, and the all encompassing spirit of the aloha. Personal differences are stylistic rather than substantive but both represent traditions with heavy structural luggage, and it is the attendant systems of the nations they represent that kept them apart when the two man would have gravitated naturally towards each other.

Hu Jintao’s term in office ends next year, colleague Wen Jiabao, the next. The helms of the nation is being turned over to a younger generation of leaders and the patterns of the last decade is not expected to change drastically as opposed to the political convulsions now being witnessed in the free market economies. Obama, on the other hand, faces a nation that had voted him into office hoping for a quick fix on everything, only to turn around quickly to put barriers on any initiatives he takes, fearful that it be too drastic, yet the man counts among his mentors the barefoot Galilean who reportedly re-

Politikan Uttimu Suspirus

Todu baba na tinituhon siempre baba lokue’ uttimoña. Kulan taiguine masusede gi mapos na semana ‘nai umanae’ i ginen gobietno yan gobietno pagu (Juan N. Babauta yan Benigno R. Fitial) ni siyan kabesanten i pattidan republican.

I intension i para umana fitme mas i pisun pattida huyuñg esta’i señgsoñg. Lau namatman sa’ i membron republican gi lehislatura ti man-makombida para ayu na hunta ‘nai ma-elihe si Fitial kabesante. Lokue’, repara sa’ ni unu gi dos (Babauta/Fitial) lamauleg administrasioña.

Guaha chinatsaga gi este na tinilaika. Machoguen papa’ troñkun niyog i nuebu na areglu pot para umana’ sulun halom si Fitial. Namase’ sa’ ‘nai sumuberu’ halom, fuetsau ha pua huyuñg galon pot galon na hanom ginen sagan fan-o’ mag republican. Hokog hanom ya memegaiña man-hanau ke umadalalag pumalapa gi halom tai sinahguan na swimming pool.

I para u kone’ halom na membron Covenant kase ‘nos kuantos. I para u diniñgu i republican pot guiya pagu kabesante, lamegai. Pues i unu hana’ pinite mientras i otro ha aminasa sin presisu. Maseha hafa madisidi ni republican siempre u anog klaru hafa diniskontentun niha ni primera lehitimu. I tautau mama’ tatautau yangin siña ha sustene digñoña ‘nai ha embrasa todus. Para i man-machanda gi un’ banda, na fan fitme hamyu gi disision miyu sa’ mangai dignu hamyu.

■■■

Gi otro semana tutuhon i haanen gupot siha desde Thanksgiving Day. Sumen namagof na okasion kumu haanen familia gi enteru iya Marianas.

Guaha dididi’ chinatsaga kau para ta gasta pottanmonedan familia gi mafahan pabu ‘sino ta polu gi un’ banda para apas CUC. Este na disision gaige gi matriatka yan patriatkan familia.

Pesonatmente, ti mapot este na selebrasion giya guahu mis-mu. Esta listu i latan satdinas asaite para bai’ fadene guennau na haane. Ti na’ mamahlau sa’ estague’ na totche pabun mamoble guine gi tano’ta.

I ginatboña este na selebrasion i ha tutuhongue’ gi tinayuyot familia gi oran sena. Tanae’ i Saina agradesimientu pot todú i bendisioña maseha sumen makat i kinalamanta na biahe. Patte este na haane gi tradision relihionta ni ta abiba halom desde uttimon siñkuenta siha na sakan. Umafagcha’ yan hineñgeta kumu mañgatoliku.

Fan mannae’ agradesimientu ya in’ fan mangagau lokue mas bendisio sa’ siempre i Saina u gaige gi fihonta para u konsuela yan u pipet hit mona gi halom katma yan pagyun lina’la’. Guaha esperansa gi ina-ñgokota gi fitme yan tai achaigua na fuetsan i man-nanae’ lina’la’.

■■■

Hu e’ekuñgo siha i man-nuebu na attistan kantan natibu. Guaha man-mauleg, guaha lokue ni ma-alaguane tai suette gi diu. Lau polu pot chechu’ animu. Mina’ hu mente este sa’ lamegai gi mantuge’ man-atotpe mensahe gi halom mismu kanta. Pot ihemplo, ilegña i unu na estague’ listu para u hanau “sa’ estayu’ tiyamu”. Dispues maimais “hafa neni disposisionmu?” Ai, ihu, yangin esta madispacha hau, haf’ na para un’ kuestiona talu i palaoan hafa disisioña?

Sige mona, lamegai sineyu’ para u fanachu i Chamorro ya umadefende i kutturan niha. Dididi’ na’tatah i finaisen gi katkuet manera. Rason? Haye kumeke amot hit nu i kutturata? Na ti asuntu gaige gi sinatton natibu umeksisia kutturaña dimas de u ke sahguan gi halom taru pot presetbasion? Pot ihemplo: I uttimu sasyan satbasion

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.

sponded to a man waiting for a messianic turn at miraculous waters: “You want to be well? Well, just pick up your bed and walk!”

Obama’s speech at the CEO Summit played to his domestic audience, essentially asking China to play by the rules without mentioning that the global rules the market economies have been playing with has earned the world hollow phantom wealth that collapsed on its own illusory weight. Hu manly smiled his way through the forum, reminding one and all that China’s economy is far from balanced and sustainable, perhaps, heeding his own ancient ancestors’ tart advice: “don’t be too humble ‘cause you are not great, yet!”

The issue is neither China or the U.S. The issue is glocal humanity. As the world turns, Obama and Hu will be the Man, and we will just aim to let the Main streets of the world, unite!

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.

kuttura ‘sino tradision gaige gi usun i liñguahen Chamorro. Ahe’ ti kuantu na konfrensia pot para ta repite i hagas man-mansañgan desde alacha siha na tiempu.

■■■

I modetno na linala’ta mampos kulan ha traba hit. Antes, tres pesus i apas kandet ya memegaiña gi neñgkano’ta ginen i gualu yan tasi. Todu usuta mafattu ginen minasahalomta.

Matulaika este fuetsau piot ‘nai humalom i “surcharge” ni fumufunas pottanmonedan familia antes de u fattu gi gima’. Dispues, guaha lokue ayudon food stamps para i numesessita lau ayudu ginen i kalaguag manman-apapase kontribusion tax halom gi kahan federat.

Ti hu kuestiotiona i ayudon neñgkano’ gi tautauta pot rason na pot diskuidon man-ma’gasta na mangaige siha gi este na modun linala. Lau i puntu: megai obligasion familia ni humohogse kantida na tautauta. Ha inklusu apas hinemlo’ deste setbisiu yan insurance, tatkilu’ na apas kandet, tatkilu’ na nesessidat familia siha, obligasion apas primet gima’ familia. Lau gi mismu tiempu i pottanmondean familia entre tabla ‘sino seru. Aminasu siha gi modetno na linala’ natibu.

■■■

‘Nai poduñg i kinalamten sasyan i tanu ni mafanana’an ekonomia, gigigu este yan ma-umentan chechu satbahe yan babarias gi enteru komunida. Lamayot patte gi este na problema finañagu ni taya’ chochu’. Ti na’ magof este sa’ oppan na diskuidon i man-ma’gas i tanu.

Tineteka lokue kuantu malulogña i prohimu gi finanaguen modun linala’ espiñtuat. Yangin chatfitme gi pisu, pues un’ ratu ha’ gumama gi halom tadoñg na tasin diskuidu ‘sino linache. Pot este na rason na presisu inna’ fan madottrina i famaguon miyu mientras man-eskuekuela. Sumen fitme na finana’gue i para u yute’ añklan espiñtuat pot no u lailai gi taduñg na tasin babarias. Si Yuus Maase’, si JR.

Letter to the Editor

Inflated job qualifications

The issue of inflated job qualification standards and comparable wages is easily resolved if the Legislature establishes a “Prevailing Wage and Fair Employment Commission” for this purpose. The sad thing is that this could have been in the works months ago. The question: Is there one legislator that would take this assignment before the next election?






Francisco R. Agulto

Chalan Kanoa

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 79

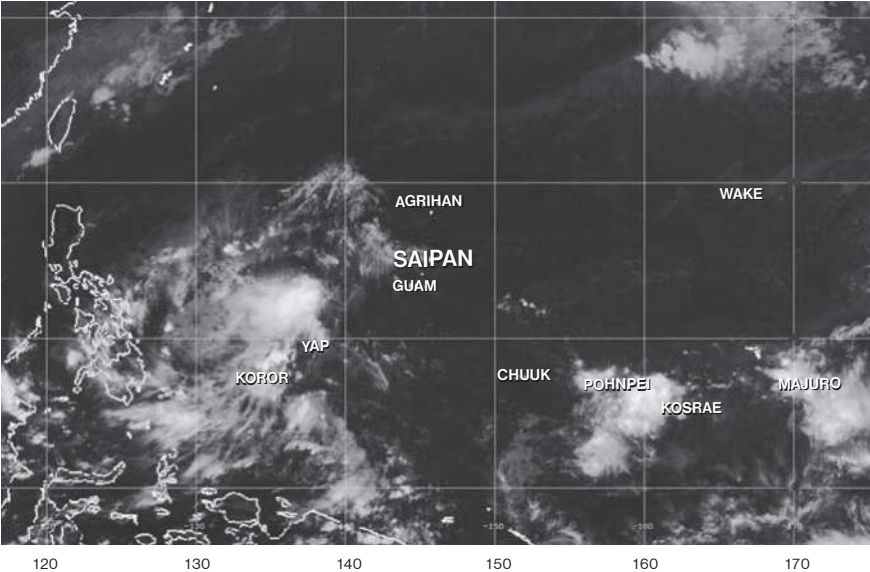
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 55
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 53 ▼ 30
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 73
London	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 45
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 49
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 53
Miami	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 72
New York	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 56
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 51
Paris	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 38
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 47
Rome	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 43
Salem	Showers	▲ 48 ▼ 45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 52
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 53 ▼ 38
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 48
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 60

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:28 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
10:38 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
8:37 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough curves eastward from 5N130E through a weak circulation centered east of Koror at 6N137E to end at 5N150E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring over Koror or south of a line from 12N130E to 9N137E to 2N143E. A surface trough extends northeastward from the circulation east of Koror to end at 16N142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present northwest of Yap and just west of Guam and Saipan within 80 miles of a line from 11N136E to 15N143E. Another surface trough meanders eastward from 12N153E through weak circulations centered east of Pohnpei at 7N162E and northeast of Majuro at 11N176E to beyond the date line at 10N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the circulation east of Pohnpei are found over Pohnpei between 1N and 7N from 156E to 163E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the trough and circulation northeast of Majuro are located over Majuro or east of a line from 3N171E to 9N166E to 10N176E to 14N174E to 16N175E. A cold front curves southwestward from 25N180 to 22N175E then continues as a shear line to end at 20N160E. Scattered showers are occurring east of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 20N174E to 22N179E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:18 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:27 PM	8:53 AM
Tuesday	9:20 PM	9:42 AM
Wednesday	10:14 PM	10:29 AM
Thursday	11:08 PM	11:15 AM
Friday		11:59 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) C05062 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) C05064 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) C05064 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) C05062 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) C05070 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C05064 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP 5K384 7:20am 8:10am 2, 6 C05068 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C05068 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05076 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 3, 4, 7 C05078 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily 5K382 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5 C05072 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN C05062 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 5K387 6:30am 7:20am 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 C05071 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C05071 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05077 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily 5K383 6:30pm 7:20pm 2, 6 C05079 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) 5K212 8:20am 10:55am 4, 7	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN 5K213 11:55am 4:25pm 4, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:05pm 12:35am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:05am 8:30am 1, 5	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C05070/191 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:10pm Daily via NRT C05068/183 7:55am 8:40pm 3, 6 via GUM C05076/183 3:05pm 8:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM C05076/193 3:05pm 10:10pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C05072/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN DL172/288 7:55am 12:35am+1 Daily via NRT C0190/5079 10:55am 9:00pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:35pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:35pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0192/5071 9:55pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM C0184/5071 10:55pm 7:25am+1 3, 6 via GUM C0184/5071 10:55pm 7:50am+1 1, 4, 7 via GUM C0184/5071 11:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 5K168 8:15am 11:25pm 1, 5 C05076/179 3:05pm 9:25pm 1, 5 via GUM	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN 5K169 1:00pm 8:05pm 1, 5 OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0180/5071 10:30pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tinian holds own Veterans Day celebrations

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The island of Tinian hosted its own Veterans Day celebra-

CNMI leaders push Tinian as backup airfield for Air Force

During the last meeting of the CNMI Military Integration Management Committee, majority conceded that Tinian was the preferred location for the U.S. Air Force divert field location.

The reasons given were:

- The airport is 1.5 miles from the closest residential development, thereby eliminating any noise pollution.
- The Tinian port has a deep-water harbor, is close to the airport, and is underutilized.
- The development of Tinian will enhance other military buildup related activities, such as the firing range proposed.
- Existing runways can easily be expanded at the current Tinian airport.
- All land in question is already public land, thereby making their acquisition uncomplicated.
- Over 95 percent of people living on Tinian welcome this initiative and will be extremely supportive.

The one thing MIMC wants make clear is that the USAF is only looking at Federal Aviation Administration-certified airports, making Tinian's North

tion, remembering in particular its own sons who have sacrificed their lives in defense of freedom.

"We are proud of their ac-

Field not an option.

In attendance was Tinian Mayor Dela Cruz, who strongly recommended the island of Tinian as did Sen. Jude Hofschneider who was not in attendance.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial welcomes the initiative on any of the islands in the CNMI and is in agreement that Tinian would be the ideal location as well.

The purpose of the upcoming Environmental Impact Study is to ensure a divert field (alternative location to Anderson Air force base) exists that can support emergency divert requirement, military training and exercises, and humanitarian relief operations within reasonable distance to AAFB and the Philippine Sea.

Based on the results of the study, which should be available by November 2012, followed by the record of decision that is expected to be released by December 2012, a location would be chosen.

If the public has any questions concerning the EIS, contact Tom Linden of the Military Integration Office at (670) 664-2276. **(Office of the Governor)**

Obama OKs bill to rename Barrigada post office

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Barack Obama has signed into law H.R. 1843, a bill designating the Guam Main Facility U.S. Post Office in Barrigada as the "John Pangelinan Gerber Post Office Building."

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 1843 by a vote of 414 yeas to 3 noes, on July 20, 2011, and the U.S. Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent on Oct. 20, 2011.

Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo introduced H.R. 1843 on May 11, 2011, in honor of John Gerber, who dedicated his life to helping his fellow Marines, veterans, and servicemembers. He worked to educate the public about Guam's importance of the War in the Pacific, as well as the Marine Corps' role in the Liberation of Guam. Many remember him for his hospitality and generosity; throughout his life, he hosted fiestas for more than 20,000 servicemembers at his home in Ordot.

In 2004, he led an effort to rename Route 1 from Marine Drive to Marine Corps Drive to commemorate the 1,548 Marines who lost their lives, and 6,000 Marines who were wounded, during the Liberation of Guam. For 27 miles, on the road from Andersen Air Force Base to Naval Base Guam, he pulled a cart, strapped with a

billboard that read: "This road was paved with the blood of 1,548 Marines. Let us never forget."

Later, he established the Pacific War Museum, which opened its doors on July 21, 2008, the 64th anniversary of the Liberation of Guam. He opened this museum to educate the public about the War in the Pacific, showcasing his personal collection of relics from World War II that he collected and restored over the years.

John Gerber was the 2011 recipient of the Colonel John H. Magruder Award. The award was posthumously bestowed on Gerber by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation in recognition for his excellence in depicting and perpetuating Marine Corps History.

"John's tireless efforts on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps and veterans on Guam made him a leader in our community," said Bordallo. "The John Pangelinan Gerber Post Office Building will serve as a lasting tribute not only to John's contributions to Guam, our nation, and the Marine Corps, but also to those servicemembers who sacrifice so much for our nation. I hope our community will always remember the Marines who fought to liberate our island from enemy occupation and other issues John championed during his life." **(PR)**

complishments and of the attestation of their patriotism," Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz said in his remarks on Nov. 11 which he described as a "special day."

This patriotism, Dela Cruz said, is "meaningful" when you take into account the number of men and women from the Commonwealth who enlist as service members.

"I believe that the magnitude of our patriotism sharply

contrasts our diminutive demographics," he said.

Dela Cruz said Tinian was once considered "the unknown" for those who fought during World War II, "brave men who stood in harm's way and protected our land."

The Tinian mayor concurred with President Barack Obama, who said that "there is no tribute, no commemoration, no praise that can truly match the magnitude of their

service and sacrifice."

"I can think of no higher sacrifice than that of someone leaving the comfort of their home and venturing out into the unknown, with such determination to protect our democratic system so that our lives and those of their children and grandchildren may be secured and peaceful," said Dela Cruz.

Dela Cruz said Tinian salutes veterans "on this special day

and always."

"It is my wish that as we continue to enjoy our peace, we continue to also give thanks to those who secure it for us. I am certain that these islands shall never forget those sacrifices in the years to come," he added.

Saipan also marked Veterans Day with a ceremony held on the "11th hour, 11th day, 11th month" or last Friday at the American Memorial Park Court of Honor.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and the island's Municipal Council present wreaths in honor of the Tinian veterans who have passed away while on duty.

New private hospital to rise in Guam

DEDEDO, Guam—Acting governor Raymond S. Tenorio and Dededo Mayor Melissa B. Savares were the guests of honor and speakers at the site blessing and project launch of the Guam Regional Medical City (GRMC), a 130-bed tertiary level hospital that will offer world-class health services tailored to the needs of the island and the rest of the Micronesian region.

The site blessing and project launch began with a cultural performance by Pa'a Taotao Tano' and was followed by a welcome address by Mayor Savares. Remarks were provided

by project proponents Dr. Alfredo R. A. Bengzon, president and CEO of The Medical City and Cezar T. Quiambao, chairman, Strategic Asia-Pacific Investments, Inc. Most Rev. Anthony Sablan Apuron, OFM CAP., D.D., Metropolitan Archbishop of Agaña, led the blessing ceremonies.

Opening its doors in 2014, GRMC will be operated by The Medical City (TMC), a Joint Commission-accredited Philippine healthcare organization that is making a serious bid at global prominence. GRMC's services will be aligned with TMC's centers of excellence

and the Region's specific health profile, featuring wellness, cardiology, medical oncology, endocrinology, pulmonology, neurology and other medical and surgical subspecialties. TMC's unique value proposition of patient empowerment and partnership will enliven all programs and services.

GRMC responds to significant market opportunities, representing a true win-win for its developers / investors and the constituents it seeks to serve. "TMC is committed to delivering its distinct brand of healthcare to the people of Guam. As the hospital operator, we

will capitalize on key strengths of our network to ensure high-quality, sustainable operations of the Guam site," said Dr. Bengzon. "Areas of synergy include service development, quality improvement, staff recruitment and supply chain management."

For his part, acting governor Tenorio pointed to the many benefits of the project. "Of course, quality, specialized healthcare will be much more accessible and affordable. In addition, the project will inject hundreds of millions of dollars, all privately generated, into the economy, and stands to provide hundreds of jobs, further improving the standard of living of all Guam residents," he said. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
An artist's rendering of the Guam Regional Medical City, a 130-bed tertiary level hospital that will offer world-class health services tailored to the needs not only of the island but the rest of the Micronesian region.

Business

Pacific trade pact gains, but friction remains

HONOLULU (AP)—Moves toward a Pacific free trade zone gained momentum Saturday, though friction over the U.S.-backed initiative were apparent, with China visibly cool to the idea.

President Barack Obama, flanked by leaders of eight other nations involved in negotiations on setting up the trading bloc, dubbed the Trans-Pacific Partnership, said he was optimistic the group could set a legal

framework by next year.

"It is an ambitious goal, but we are optimistic that we can get it done," he said on the sidelines of an annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

By progressively removing barriers and bottlenecks that slow trade and business, APEC members hope to give their economies a significant boost over the longer-term. At the same time they are working toward a broader agreement, countries are still forging separate free-trade deals, aiming to re-energize

growth at a time when the world economy most needs dynamism in the Asia-Pacific region to offset the malaise spreading from crisis-stricken Europe.

All 21 members of APEC have committed to the eventual goal of forging a regionwide free-trade zone. The so-called TPP is billed as a "building block" of that ambition, but other, rival arrangements have already emerged.

The current membership of the Pacific trade pact includes only Chile, New Zealand, Bru-

nei and Singapore. The U.S., Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Peru are negotiating to join, and Japan announced Friday that it intends to participate.

China, which some economists say is on course to overtake the U.S. as the world's biggest economy this decade, has appeared unenthusiastic,

describing the plan as "overly ambitious." Its reluctance to endorse the proposal likely reflects wariness of being drawn into what has become a U.S.-led initiative that encroaches on its own sphere of influence in Asia. China also has commitments to other free trade arrangements in East and Southeast Asia.

APEC's vital statistics

Leaders of the 21 nations in the trade-promotion group Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation will meet in Honolulu, Nov. 12-13, 2011.

Member nations

	In billions of U.S. dollars, 2010	GDP*	Current account balance
Australia	\$1,236.0	13.0	4.0
Brunei	13.0	4.0	4.0
Canada	1,574.0	48.5	48.5
Chile	203.3	3.8	3.8
China	5,878.0	305.4	305.4
Hong Kong (China)	225.0	14.8	14.8
Indonesia	706.7	6.3	6.3
Japan	5,459.0	166.5	166.5
South Korea	1,007.0	36.4	36.4
Malaysia	238.0	34.1	34.1
Mexico	1,039.0	-5.6	-5.6
New Zealand	140.4	-3.2	-3.2
Papua New Guinea	9.7	-648.4	-648.4
Peru	152.8	-2.3	-2.3
Philippines	188.7	9.5	9.5
Russia	1,465.0	71.1	71.1
Singapore	222.7	46.3	46.3
Taiwan	430.6	40.6	40.6
Thailand	318.9	12.3	12.3
U.S.	\$14,660.0	-470.2	-470.2
Vietnam	103.6	-12.2	-12.2

*Official exchange rate
Source: CIA World Factbook



U.S. President Barack Obama speaks during a discussion at the APEC CEO Summit, a gathering of business leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, in Honolulu.

Analysis: Brussels takes heavy hand in euro crisis

BRUSSELS (AP)—The European Union, never known for its light touch, is pushing through the euro crisis with an unusually heavy hand. Surprisingly, few people seem to be complaining.

Brussels—and the leaders of the EU's two most powerful countries—have come close

to ordering that a government of national unity be formed in Greece, that a national referendum there be scrapped, and that Italy accept humiliating international financial inspection of its books.

But voters in those beleaguered member states seem

weary for now of politics and the fine mess their elected leaders have gotten them into. They've looked over the precipice and seem to have decided just for the moment to forego politics, ballot-going and little quibbles over sovereignty.

The normally fiercely independent-minded people of Greece and Italy—both countries in dire trouble over their sovereign debts—seem willing to accept as their new prime ministers technocrats who are

veterans of pan-European institutions with reputations for meddling in national affairs.

The new prime minister of Greece is Lucas Papademos, a 64-year-old former vice president of the European Central Bank. The expected new leader of Italy, once the flamboyant and often embarrassing Silvio Berlusconi resigns, is 68-year-old Mario Monti—a former competition commissioner for none other than the EU.

FHB promotes Camacho to VP, deputy manager

HAGÁTÑA, Guam—First Hawaiian Bank chair and CEO Don Horner announced last Friday the promotion of Martha L. Camacho from vice president and area manager to vice president and deputy manager, Residential Real Estate Division.

Camacho will manage the bank's residential credit center and serve as deputy manager for the division. She joined the bank in 1986 as a loan representative in the Maite Branch on Guam and later joined the Main Banking Center in Honolulu as a vice president and business

banking officer.

She was the vice president and area manager at the bank's Wahiawa Branch. She holds a degree in Business Management from the University of Guam and is a graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School in Seattle, Washington.

First Hawaiian Bank (fhb.com) with assets of \$15.4 billion was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and is the leading bank in Guam with the largest share of loans and deposits in the region. The bank operates 58 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan. (FHB)



Camacho

Delta Air Lines (NYSE: DAL) has launched an online marketplace to provide selected SkyMiles members with a new way to redeem miles for merchandise and gift cards. SkyMiles Diamond, Platinum and Gold Medallion members and SkyMiles co-brand credit cardholders can now redeem miles with more choice and flexibility.

SkyMiles Marketplace offers a customer-friendly online experience for members who are looking for additional ways to use miles. The marketplace will launch with over 100 items, including home electronics, gift cards, cosmetics and spa, apparel and accessories, etc. on <http://marketplaceasia.delta.com>.

"We are committed to delivering a best-in-class loyalty program that offers more



benefits to our valued customers," said Vinay Dube, Delta's senior vice president - Asia Pacific. "We continue to focus on building a comprehensive network as well as offering best-in-class products and services for our customers in Asia."

"SkyMiles Marketplace provides selected SkyMiles members and co-brand credit cardholders with popular brand-name retail merchandise," said Steven Crowdey, Delta's general manager, Australia, Micronesia and Philippines. "It is an innovative option for our customers to redeem their miles in Guam, Northern Marianas, and Palau."

Now in its 30th year, SkyMiles is one of the longest-running and most successful loyalty programs in the travel industry. The program offers members multiple mileage-earning opportunities including 100 percent miles on every purchased fare when flying with Delta, Delta Shuttle, the Delta Connection and by flying with SkyTeam® alliance partners. Additional mile-earning opportunities are offered through other airline partners, hotels and bank partners including the co-branded credit card with Bank of Guam (BOG). Delta

is introducing more ways to redeem miles, including airline tickets, car rentals and hotel stays for customers. For more information on the SkyMiles program, Medallion status and mileage redemption options, visit delta.com.

Delta operates daily nonstop flights from Guam to Tokyo-Narita, Osaka and Nagoya; from Saipan to Narita; from Palau 3X weekly to Narita. Passengers can connect to nine U.S. gateways and nine destinations in Asia via Narita.

Delta Air Lines serves more than 160 million customers each year, and was named by Fortune magazine as the most admired airline worldwide in its 2011 World's Most Admired Companies airline industry list. With an industry-leading global

network, Delta and the Delta Connection carriers offer service to 335 destinations in 59 countries on six continents. Headquartered in Atlanta, Delta employs more than 75,000 employees worldwide and operates a mainline fleet of more than 700 aircraft. A founding member of the SkyTeam global alliance, Delta participates in the industry's leading trans-Atlantic joint venture with Air France-KLM and Alitalia. Including its worldwide alliance partners, Delta offers customers more than 13,000 daily flights, with hubs in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis-St. Paul, New York-JFK, Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Salt Lake City and Tokyo-Narita. The airline's service includes the SkyMiles frequent flier program, the world's largest airline loyalty program; the award-winning BusinessElite service; and more than 50 Delta Sky Clubs in airports worldwide. Delta is investing more than \$2 billion through 2013 in airport facilities and global products, services and technology to enhance the customer experience in the air and on the ground. Customers can check in for flights, print boarding passes, check bags and review flight status at delta.com. (Delta Airlines)

IMF chief: Japan not immune to eurozone crisis

TOKYO (AP)—The chief of the International Monetary Fund said Saturday that Italy's financial reform is key to reducing the impact of the eurozone crisis, and that no country is immune to the consequences if the efforts fall short.

After meeting in Tokyo with top Japanese financial officials, including Finance Minister Jun Azumi, IMF chief Christine Lagarde said Italy must restore political stability and implement financial reforms to provide "clarity and credibility" and restore confidence.

Italy needs "steady, solid and sustained implementation of measures," she said at a news conference.

The eurozone financial crisis, set off two years ago by Greece's overwhelming debt, has now engulfed Italy, which has the third-largest economy

among the 17 nations that share the euro currency. The crisis has toppled Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, who says he will step down once reforms are passed to help Italy control its own staggering debt.

Lagarde expressed concerns about the possible consequences outside the eurozone, particularly in Asia. She urged Japan to use caution against the impact of the eurozone crisis.

"I insisted with Minister Azumi that no country can be immune under the present circumstances, no matter how developed or how emerging or how far away it is," Lagarde said. "Japan is no more immune than other countries."

A major exporter, Japan "would be exposed if some of its large clients are in serious difficulty," she said.

Nation

Sandusky had access to vulnerable kids via charity

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—Over the past 30 years, politicians, sports stars and community leaders heaped praise on Jerry Sandusky and the charity he founded for troubled youngsters, The Second Mile. It was a model program, and the acclaimed football coach was its driving force.

Now, prosecutors say that very success enabled Sandusky to find boys and sexually assault them.

Sandusky, 67, was charged last weekend with molesting

eight boys over a 15-year period in a scandal that rocked the Penn State campus and brought down the university's beloved football coach, Joe Paterno.

In the aftermath, some are wondering if The Second Mile can survive amid questions about its role in the alleged cover-up.

Sandusky was a star assistant coach at Penn State from the 1970s to the 1990s, and many assumed he would lead the team one day, or even head to pro football. He founded The

Second Mile in 1977 for youngsters from broken homes and troubled backgrounds, building it into an organization that helped as many as 100,000 children a year through camps and fundraisers.

Among the big-time athletic figures listed as honorary directors were Cal Ripken Jr., Arnold Palmer, former Pittsburgh Steeler Franco Harris and Philadelphia Eagles coach Andy Reid. President George W. Bush praised the group as a "shining example" of charity

work in a 1990 letter. (Sandusky's reaction: "It's about time, George! This is long overdue," he recalled in his autobiography, "Touched.")

But prosecutors said that running the charity gave Sandusky "access to hundreds of boys, many of whom were vulnerable

due to their social situations."

He invited youngsters for overnight sleepovers at his home and took them to restaurants and bowl games. He wrestled in the swimming pool with kids who craved the attention. And he gave them gifts: golf clubs, sneakers, dress clothes, a

computer and money, according to the indictment from the Pennsylvania attorney general.

The good-guy aura around Sandusky was so great that when some children questioned behavior that didn't seem right, no one took the complaints seriously.

GOP contenders argue on Afghanistan, Iran, torture

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (AP)—Unsparring in their criticism of President Barack Obama, Republican presidential hopefuls disagreed in campaign debate Saturday night about the right course in Afghanistan, the use of waterboarding and the wisdom of a pre-emptive military strike to prevent Iran from gaining a nuclear weapon.

"If we re-elect Barack Obama, Iran will have a nuclear weapon. And if you elect Mitt Romney, Iran will not have a nuclear weapon," vowed the former Massachusetts governor.

On waterboarding, Herman Cain and Rep. Michele Bachmann both said they would reinstate the technique designed to simulate drowning. Cain went one step further, adding that he would leave it up to military leaders—rather than their civilian superiors—to decide what forms of interrogation amount to torture, which he said he opposes.

As for the war in Afghanistan, former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman and Rep. Ron Paul

of Texas both said it was time for U.S. troops to come home after a combat mission of 10 years duration.

While the Republicans were talking about foreign policy, Obama was on the world stage, as America's diplomat in chief.

After meeting with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in Hawaii, he said the two men intend to "shape a common response" to new allegations that Iran has been covertly trying to build a nuclear bomb. The issue is fraught because the regime in Tehran is harshly anti-Israel, a nation the United States has pledged to defend.

If the presidential trip gave the Republicans pause, they didn't show it in a 90-minute debate.

"There are a number of ways to be smart about Iran, and a few ways to be stupid. The administration skipped all the ways to be smart," said former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

The debate occurred less than two months before the formal

selection of national convention delegates begins on Jan. 3 in the Iowa caucuses, with the race remarkably unsettled.

Romney has been at or near the top of the public opinion polls for months, while a succession of rivals vying to emerge as his principal challenger has risen and fallen in turn.

The latest soundings show Cain the current leader in that sweepstakes, although Gingrich has risen significantly in national polls in recent weeks as Perry has fallen back. And while the subject matter of defense and foreign policy didn't readily lend itself to a discussion of the principal campaign controversies, the race has had plenty of them in the past two weeks.

Cain has stoutly denied any and all charges of sexual harassment—four women have leveled accusations—while Perry embarked on an apology tour after failing in a debate Wednesday night to remember the name of the third of three Cabinet-level departments he wants to abolish.



In this photo provided by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, former Penn State football defensive coordinator Gerald "Jerry" Sandusky, center, walks to the office of Centre County Magisterial District Judge Leslie A. Dutchcot while being escorted by Pennsylvania State Police and Attorney General's Office officials on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, in State College, Pa.

Obama seeks Russia, China help on Iran

HONOLULU (AP)—Searching for help, President Barack Obama lobbied the skeptical leaders of Russia and China on Saturday for support in keeping Iran from becoming a nuclear-armed menace to the world, hoping to yield a "common response" to a deepening problem.

Yet Obama's talk of solidarity with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Chinese President Hu Jintao was not publicly echoed by either man as Iran moved anew to the fore of the international stage—and to the front of the fierce U.S. presidential race.

The United States' vast worries about Iran grew starker with a report this week by the U.N. atomic agency that asserted in the strongest terms yet Iran is conducting secret work with the sole intent of developing nuclear arms. The U.S. claims a nuclear-armed Iran could set off an arms race among rival states and directly threaten Israel.

Russia and China remain a roadblock to the United States in its push to tighten international sanctions on Iran. Both are veto-wielding members of the U.N. Security Council and have shown no sign the new report will change their stand.

With Medvedev on the sidelines of an Asia-Pacific summit here, Obama said the two "reaffirmed our intention to

Obama revisits Asia-Pacific

President Barack Obama hosts the APEC summit in Hawaii before traveling to Australia and then Indonesia for the East Asia summit.

Fri., Nov. 11 Obama departs Washington for Honolulu

Sat., Nov. 12 Hosts meeting of Trans-Pacific Partnership nations; attends APEC business summit; bilateral meetings with leaders of Japan, Russia, China

Sun., Nov. 13 APEC summit of 21 nations; press conference; meets with leaders of Canada, Mexico

Mon., Nov. 14 Flies to Canberra, Australia

Tues., Nov. 15 Meets with Prime Minister Julia Gillard; joint press conference; dinner at Australian Parliament

Wed., Nov. 16 Speech to Parliament; in Darwin, lays wreath at USS Peary memorial; Obama and Gillard mark 60th anniversary of U.S.-Australian alliance at military base; flies to Bali

Thurs., Nov. 17 Bilateral meetings with Asian leaders

Fri., Nov. 18 Attends East Asia summit; returns to Washington



ACROSS THE NATION

Pressure to leave mounts on Occupy camps

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Occupy Oakland protesters rallied and marched Saturday even as city officials have increased pressure on them to leave their encampment in front of City Hall. For the second time in as many days, Oakland city officials warned protesters Saturday morning that they do not have the right to camp in the plaza overnight and face immediate arrest and the removal of their tents, stoves, sleeping bags and other belongings. The eviction notices come as officials across the country urged an end to similar gatherings in the wake of three deaths in different cities, including two by gunfire.

"Your activities are injurious to health, obstruct the free use of property, interfering with the comfortable enjoyment of (Frank Ogawa Plaza), and unlawfully obstruct the free passage or use of a public park or square," the notice read.

NYC marks 10th anniversary of Flight 587 crash

NEW YORK (AP)—For a few anguished hours on Nov. 12, 2001, Americans still in shock over the 9/11 attacks watched television footage of the blazing wreckage of a jetliner that had just crashed in a Queens neighborhood, and wondered: Is it happening again? It wasn't. By late afternoon,

authorities were saying the crash of American Airlines Flight 587 looked like an accident, not terrorism. The country breathed a sigh of relief. The horror and grief lingered longer for the loved ones of the 265 dead. Even after a decade, sadness lives on for people like William Valentine, whose partner and lover of 20 years, flight attendant Joe Lopes, died on the flight. "I don't think an hour goes by," he said, suppressing a sob, "when I'm not thinking of Joe in some way."

Ohio house explodes; 6 injured, 1 still missing

FAIRBORN, Ohio (AP)—A house exploded in western Ohio on Saturday, sending six people, including three young children, to hospitals with burns and leaving one person missing, officials said. Work was being done on the duplex's water line when the gas line was struck and ruptured, causing the explosion, Fairborn Fire Marshal Carl Day said. It is unclear whether anyone died in the blast. Investigators were still piecing together how many people lived in the duplex and where they were when the explosion occurred. The house was demolished, throwing debris and the victims—including an infant—into the yard. Hours later, crews were still searching the rubble for the unaccounted person, believed to be an older man, Day said.

to ensure that Iran abides by "international rules and norms."

Obama's comments were broad enough to portray a united front without yielding any clear indication of progress. Medvedev, for his part, was largely silent on Iran during his remarks, merely acknowledging that the subject was discussed. Hu did not mention Iran at all.

Asia

First look at Japan nuclear plant: rubble amid progress

OKUMA, Japan (AP)—Two reactor buildings once painted in a cheery sky blue loom over the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. Their roofs are blasted away, their crumbled concrete walls reduced to steel frames.

In their shadow, plumbers, electricians and truck drivers, sometimes numbering in the thousands, go dutifully about their work, all clad from head to toe in white hazmat suits. Their job—cleaning up the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl—will take decades to complete.

Reporters, also in radiation suits, visited the ravaged facility Saturday for the first time since Japan's worst tsunami in centuries swamped the plant March 11, causing reactor explosions and meltdowns and turning hundreds of square miles (kilometers) of countryside into a no man's land.

Eight months later, the plant remains a shambles. Mangled trucks, flipped over by the power of the wave, still clutter its access roads. Rubble remains strewn where it fell. Pools of water cover parts of the once immaculate campus.

Tens of thousands of the plant's former neighbors may never be able to go home. And just as Hiroshima and Nagasaki become icons of the horrors of nuclear

weapons, Fukushima has become the new rallying cry of the global anti-nuclear energy movement.

Yet this picture is one of progress, Japanese officials say. It has taken this long to make the plant stable enough to allow Saturday's tour, which included representatives of the Japanese and international media—including The Associated Press. Officials expect to complete an early but important step toward cleaning up the accident by the end of the year.

"I think it's remarkable that we've come this far," Environment Minister Goshi Hosono, Japan's chief nuclear crisis response official, said before leading the tour. "The situation at the beginning was extremely severe. At least we can say we have overcome the worst."

The group was taken through the center of the facility, a once-neat row of reactor buildings that are now shells of shattered walls and steel frames. Journalists were then briefed inside the plant's emergency operations center, a spacious, bunker-like structure where it is safe to remove the heavy protective gear required outdoors.

Woefully unprepared for the wave that swept over its breakwater, the plant just 140 miles

(225 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo was doomed almost from the start.

"During the first week of the accident, I thought several times that we were all going to die," plant chief Masao Yoshida said.

At the height of the crisis, all but a few dozen workers—dubbed the "Fukushima 50"—were evacuated. Officials boast that number is now up to as many as 3,000 a day, compared with the pre-crisis work force of 6,400.

Evidence of the tremendous man-hours already invested in the cleanup is piling up in the workers' staging area, on the edge of the 12-mile (20-kilometer) no-go zone around the plant. More than 480,000 sets of used protective gear—which can be worn only once—lie in crates or plastic bags at the complex, which before the tsunami was a training facility for national-level soccer teams.

Kazuo Okawa, 56, who worked at Fukushima for 20 years, was called back to join an emergency crew for several days in April. His team wore three layers of gloves, full-face masks, double-layer Tyvek protective coveralls, rubber boots with plastic covers and plastic head covers. They carried personal Geiger counters.

Thai PM: Flooding won't devastate central Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP)—Central Bangkok will see only mild flooding if it ends up falling victim to the waters that have devastated much of Thailand, the prime minister said Saturday.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra offered her prognosis on her weekly radio broadcast as the water covering parts of northern Bangkok for days appeared to be falling.

Yingluck cites flood experts in saying water in the center of the capital will not be deeper than 12 inches (30 centimeters). She acknowledged that

"it is hard to say how far floodwater would get into the heart of the capital."

Some less developed, less densely populated areas north of Bangkok were submerged under more than 6 feet (2 meters) of water. The floods have killed more than 500 people since late July and caused billions of dollars in damage.

Worries about flooding are now focused to the east and west of the city center.

In the east, several industrial estates are under threat, despite flood walls and pumps. Seven

major industrial estates, mostly north of the capital, already were flooded, shutting down hundreds of factories, including assembly plants for Honda and Toyota. Water has been receding there, and recovery efforts began this past week.

West of central Bangkok, floodwaters may cut off the main route south from the city, Rama II Road, a situation about which Yingluck expressed concern. Authorities are working to clear an alternate route that was previously flooded.

early Saturday in a remote village in Sultan Kudarat province. Ardo said Sunday that Fegurac had an argument with a rival family over a long-standing land feud a few days before the attack.

Roadside bomb kills 9 Afghan civilians

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A roadside bomb destroyed a car in eastern Afghanistan Saturday, killing nine civilians, including a woman and a child, officials said. President Hamid Karzai condemned the bombing, which took place outside Mehterlam, the capital of Laghman province. Faizanullah Patan, a spokesman for the provincial governor, put the death toll at nine and said the blast destroyed the vehicle. NATO said one of its service members was killed by a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan. It provided no other information. The death raised to 496 the number of coalition troops killed in the country so far this year.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Death toll rises to 34 in China mine accident

BEIJING (AP)—Thirty-four miners are now confirmed dead in a gas leak at a coal mine in southwestern China. Another nine miners are still trapped. A powerful gas leak hit one underground platform of the Sizhuang Coal Mine in Yunnan province on Thursday and spread to another platform, trapping 43 miners. It was China's second deadly mining accident in less than a week. China's coal mines are the deadliest in the world.

Gunmen kill family of 5 in southern Philippines

COTABATO, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine army commander says gunmen have shot to death an entire family of five in the country's volatile south, apparently over a land dispute. Army Brig. Gen. Rey Ardo says Jolie Fegurac, his wife and three children were asleep when several men armed with assault rifles peppered their house with gunfire

World

End of an era: Italy's Berlusconi resigns



Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi leaves the Quirinale Presidential Palace after meeting Italian President Giorgio Napolitano, in Rome, Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011.

ROME (AP)—A chorus of Handel's "Alleluia" rang out Saturday as Silvio Berlusconi resigned as Italian premier, ending a tumultuous 17-year political era and setting in motion a transition aimed at bringing the country back from the brink of economic crisis.

Berlusconi stepped down amid jeers, cheers and heckles of "Buffoon" from thousands of people who packed downtown Rome to witness his government's downfall after a stunning week of market turmoil that upended his defiant

hold on power and threatened to tear apart the eurozone.

Respected former European commissioner Mario Monti remained the top choice to try to steer the country out of its debt woes as the head of a transitional government. But the job is Herculean, given the enormity of reforms required and Italy's often-paralyzed parliament.

President Giorgio Napolitano will hold consultations Sunday morning with each of Italy's main political forces before proceeding with the ex-

Arab League votes to suspend Syria over killings

CAIRO (AP)—In a surprisingly sharp move, the Arab League voted Saturday to suspend Syria over the country's bloody crackdown on an eight-month uprising and stepped up calls on the army to stop killing civilians.

The decision was a humiliating blow to a regime that prides itself as a bastion of Arab nationalism, but it was unlikely to immediately end a wave of violence that the U.N. estimates has killed more than 3,500 people since mid-March.

"Syria is a dear country for all of us and it pains us to make this decision," Qatar's Foreign Minister Hamad bin Jassim told reporters. "We hope there will be a brave move from Syria to stop the violence and begin a real dialogue toward real reform."

In Damascus, pro-regime

demonstrators threw eggs and tomatoes at the Qatari Embassy to protest the vote.

The 22-member Arab League will monitor the situation and revisit the decision in a meeting Wednesday in the Moroccan capital, Rabat, bin Jassim said, a move that appeared to give Syrian President Bashar Assad time to avert the suspension.

But Syria has been unwilling to heed previous calls to end the violence. Saturday's vote came after Damascus failed to carry out a Nov. 2 peace deal brokered by the Arab League that called on Syria to halt the attacks and pull tanks out of cities.

More than 250 Syrian civilians have been killed so far this month, including 12 on Saturday in attacks in the restive city

pected request that Monti try to form a new government.

Napolitano has scheduled back-to-back, 10-minute meetings all morning, indicating the talks won't drag on and that by the open of markets Monday, Italy may well have charted a new political course.

Late Saturday, Berlusconi's party said it would support Monti, albeit with conditions.

In front of Napolitano's office, where Berlusconi handed in his resignation late Saturday, protesters uncorked sparkling wine and danced in a conga line, shouting "We're free!" Several dozen singers and classical musicians—complete with music stands and chairs—performed Handel's "Alleluia" to rejoice in the end of Berlusconi's scandal-marred reign and welcome Monti into office.

"I think he (Monti) is going to bring trust back to Italian people who are losing it, are a bit fed up with what's going on and have lost the trust and the respect" they had for Berlusconi, said Sophie Duffort of France, who was in the piazza Saturday night.

Berlusconi supporters were also out in force, some singing the national anthem, but they were vastly outnumbered.

of Homs, the Damascus suburbs and elsewhere, according to activist groups.

President Barack Obama praised the Arab League, highlighting what he called the group's leadership in seeking to end attacks on peaceful protesters. "These significant steps expose the increasing diplomatic isolation of a regime that has systematically violated human rights and repressed peaceful protests," he said in a statement.

Arab League diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters, said that if Syria does not adhere to its demands, the organization will work to unify the disparate Syrian opposition into a coalition similar to that of Libya's National Transitional Council.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexico loss of 2nd in charge won't change drug war

MEXICO CITY (AP)—President Felipe Calderon said Saturday the loss of Mexico's No. 2 official in a helicopter crash won't weaken the offensive against drug cartels and, if anything, will toughen it. Speaking at a memorial service, Calderon said the best way to pay tribute to Interior Secretary Francisco Blake Mora and the seven others killed Friday when their aircraft smashed into a mountainside south of Mexico City is "to keep fighting with greater conviction for the things they fought for." Blake Mora had been the face of the government's drug war, carrying a message to stay tough and bringing new offensives to states

beleaguered by drug violence. He was on his way to a meeting of prosecutors when he died.

Accidental blast at arms depot kills 17

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—An accidental explosion at a Revolutionary Guard ammunition depot west of Tehran killed at least 17 soldiers on Saturday, Iranian officials said. The explosion occurred while military personnel were transporting munitions at a base, said Guard spokesman Gen. Ramazan Sharif. The site is located outside Bidganeh village, 25 miles (40 kilometers) southwest of the capital. The Guard is Iran's most powerful military force.

Health & Fitness

Doctors: Test all kids for cholesterol by age 11

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE** and
LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITERS

CHICAGO (AP)—Every child should be tested for high cholesterol as early as age 9—surprising new advice from a government panel that suggests screening kids in grade school for a problem more common in middle age.

The idea will come as a shock to most parents. And it's certain to stir debate.

The doctors on the expert panel that announced the new guidelines Friday concede there is little proof that testing now

will prevent heart attacks decades later. But many doctors say waiting might be too late for children who have hidden risks.

Fat deposits form in the heart arteries in childhood but don't usually harden them and cause symptoms until later in life. The panel urges cholesterol screening between ages 9 and 11—before puberty, when cholesterol temporarily dips—and again between ages 17 and 21.

The panel also suggests diabetes screening every two years starting as early as 9 for children who are overweight and have other risks for Type 2 diabetes, including family history.

The new guidelines are from an expert panel appointed by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Some facts everyone agrees on:

■ By the fourth grade, 10 to 13 percent of U.S. children have high cholesterol, defined as a score of 200 or more.

■ Half of children with high cholesterol will also have it as adults, raising their risk of heart disease.

■ One third of U.S. children and teens are obese or overweight, which makes high cholesterol

Babies on obesity path? New sign may offer answer

By **LINDSEY TANNER**
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—Researchers say there's a new way to tell if infants are likely to become obese later on: Check to see if they've passed two key milestones on doctors' growth charts by age 2.

Babies who grew that quickly face double the risk of being obese at age 5, compared with peers who grew more slowly, their study found. Rapid growers were also more likely to be obese at age 10, and infants whose chart numbers climbed that much during their first 6 months faced the greatest risks.

That kind of rapid growth should be a red flag to doctors, and a sign to parents that babies might be overfed or spending too much time in strollers and not enough crawling around, said pediatrician Dr. Elsie Taveras, the study's lead author and an obesity researcher at Harvard Medical School.

Contrary to the idea that chubby babies are the picture of health, the study bolsters evidence that "bigger is not better" in infants, she said.

But skeptics say not so fast. Babies often grow in spurts and flagging the speediest growers could lead to putting infants on diets—a bad idea that could backfire in the long run, said Dr. Michelle Lampl, director of Emory University's Center for the Study of Human Health.

"It reads like a very handy rule and sounds like it would be very useful—and that's my concern," Lampl said. The guide would be easy to use to justify feeding infants less and to unfairly label them as fat. It could also prompt feeding patterns that could lead to obesity later, she said.

Lampl noted that many infants studied crossed at least two key points on growth charts; yet only 12 percent were obese at age 5 and slightly more at age 10. Nationally, about 10 percent of preschool-aged children are obese, versus about 19 percent of those aged 6 to 11.

Lampl and Edward Frongillo, an infant growth specialist at the University of South Carolina, voiced concern in an editorial accompanying the study in the journal *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, released online Monday. They argue that more research is needed to confirm whether the study's recommendation is really a useful way to flag infants for obesity.

"The potential to do more harm than good is actually very high," Frongillo said. Taveras said the kind of rapid growth noted in the study should be used to raise awareness about potential risks but is not a reason to put babies on a diet.

The study involved 45,000 infants and children younger than age 11 who had routine growth measurements during doctor checkups in the Boston area from 1980 through 2008. Growth charts help pediatricians plot weight, length in babies and height in older kids in relation to other children their same age and sex. Pediatricians sometimes combine an infant's measures to calculate weight-for-length—the equivalent of body-mass index, or BMI, a height-to-weight ratio used in older children and adults.

The charts are organized into percentiles. For example, infants at the 75th percentile for weight are heavier than 75 percent of their peers. The study authors used seven

major cutoffs on the charts—the 5th, 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, 90th and 95th percentiles—to calculate growth pace. An infant whose weight-for-length jumped from the 19th percentile at 1 month to the 77th at 6 months crossed three major percentiles—the 25th, 50th and 75th—and would be at risk for obesity later in childhood, the authors said.

Larger infants were most at risk for obesity later on, but even smaller babies whose growth crossed at least two percentiles were at greater risk than those who grew more slowly.

About 40 percent of infants crossed at least two percentiles by age 6 months. An analysis of more than one-third of the study children found that 64 percent grew that rapidly by age 2.

Dr. Joanna Lewis, a pediatrician at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill., said she supports the idea that infancy is not too young to start thinking about obesity.

Still, she emphasized that rapid growth in infancy doesn't mean babies are doomed to become obese. "It's not a life sentence," and there are steps parents can take to keep their babies at a healthy weight without restrictive diets, she said.

Lewis said many of her patients are large babies whose parents feed them juice or solid food despite guidelines recommending nothing but breast milk or formula in the first six months.

"The study reinforces what we try to tell parents already: Delay starting solids and don't put juice in a bottle," Lewis said.

Lewis also advises parents that when starting infants on solid food, have the whole family sit down and eat together. Research has shown that obesity is less common in children raised in families that have frequent meals together at home.



In this Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011 photo, Dr. Elaine Urbina, left, examines Joscelyn Benninghoff, 10, at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. AP

and diabetes more likely.

Until now, cholesterol testing has only been done for kids with a known family history of early heart disease or inherited high cholesterol, or with risk factors such as obesity, diabetes or high blood pressure. That approach misses about 30 percent of kids with high cholesterol.

"If we screen at age 20, it may be already too late," said one of the guideline panel members,

Dr. Elaine Urbina, director of preventive cardiology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. "To me, it's not controversial at all. We should have been doing this for years."

Elizabeth Duruz didn't want to take that chance. Her 10-year-old

daughter, Joscelyn Benninghoff, has been on cholesterol-lowering medicines since she was 5 because high cholesterol runs in her family. They live in Cincinnati.

"We decided when she was 5 that we would get her screened early on. She tested really high" despite being active and not overweight, Duruz said. "We're doing what we need to do for her now, and that gives me hope that she'll be healthy."

Dr. Roger Blumenthal, who is preventive cardiology chief at Johns Hopkins Medical Center and had no role in the guide-

lines, said he thinks his 12-year-old son should be tested because he has a cousin with very high "bad" cholesterol who needed heart bypass surgery for clogged arteries in his 40s.

"I'm very supportive" of universal screening, he said. "The knowledge of their cholesterol numbers as well as their blood sugar levels can be very helpful for the physicians and their families about which patients

are headed toward diabetes."

Dr. William Cooper, a pediatric and preventive medicine professor at Vanderbilt University, said expanding the testing guidelines "would seem to me to make sense."

But he added: "One of the risks would be that we

would be treating more kids, potentially, and we don't know yet the implications of what we're treating. Are we treating a number or are we treating a risk factor?"

That's the reason a different group of government advisers, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, concluded in 2007 that not enough is known about the possible benefits and risks to recommend for or against cholesterol screening for children and teens.

One of its leaders, Dr. Michael LeFevre, a family medicine specialist at the University of Missouri, said that for the task

force to declare screening beneficial there must be evidence that treatment improves health, such as preventing heart attacks, rather than just nudging down a number—the cholesterol score.

"Some of the argument is that we need to treat children when they're 14 or 15 to keep them from having a heart attack when they're 50, and that's a pretty long lag time," he said.

The guidelines say that cholesterol drugs likely would be recommended for less than 1 percent of kids tested, and they shouldn't be used in children younger than 10 unless they have severe problems.

"We'll also continue to encourage parents and children to make positive lifestyle choices to prevent risk factors from occurring," steps such as diet and exercise, said Dr. Gordon Tomaselli, president of the American Heart Association. The group praised the guidelines and will host a presentation on them Sunday at its annual conference in Florida.

Cholesterol tests cost around \$80 and usually are covered by health insurance. Several of the 14 doctors on the guidelines panel have received consulting fees or have had other financial ties to makers of cholesterol medicines.

Typically, cholesterol drugs are used indefinitely but they are generally safe, said Dr. Sarah Blumenschein, director of preventive cardiology at Children's Medical Center in Dallas, who had no role in the guidelines but supports them.

"You have to start early. It's much easier to change children's behavior when they're 5 or 10 or 12" than when they're older, she said.

The guidelines also say doctors should:

■ Take yearly blood pressure measurements for children starting at age 3.

■ Start routine anti-smoking advice when kids are ages 5 to 9, and counsel parents of infants not to smoke in the home.

■ Review infants' family history of obesity and start tracking body mass index, or BMI, a measure of obesity, at age 2.

The panel also suggests using more frank terms for kids who are overweight and obese than some government agencies have used in the past. Children whose BMI is in the 85th to 95th percentile should be called overweight, not "at risk for overweight," and kids whose BMI is in the 95th percentile or higher should be called obese, not "overweight - even kids as young as age 2, the panel said.

"Some might feel that 'obese' is an unacceptable term for children and parents," so doctors should "use descriptive terminology that is appropriate for each child and family," the guidelines recommend.

They were released online Friday by the journal *Pediatrics*.

ON THE NET

- Journal: <http://www.archpediatrics.com>
- Growth charts: <http://www.cdc.gov/growth-charts>

ON THE NET

- Guidelines: <http://tinyurl.com/7csojas>
- NHLBI panel: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cvd-ped/index.htm>
- Cholesterol info: <http://tinyurl.com/23dtxvo> and [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/index.htm\(hash\)chol](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/index.htm(hash)chol)

Life & Style

From San Francisco to Sacramento (Part II)

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

(Conclusion)

It took us two hours to completely navigate the nine galleries dedicated to Pablo Picasso's more than 150 masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso in Paris, on temporary display at the de Young Fine Arts Museum in San Francisco. No matter how many art history books you've read or documentaries you've watched about Surrealism, Cubism, and art in general, nothing could really prepare you for the intensity of seeing Picasso's original paintings, drawings, sculptures, and other artwork.

But the museum that temporarily housed Picasso's personal collection is also in itself a masterpiece—an integration of art, architecture, and nature.

The landmark de Young Fine Arts Museum, in the heart of San Francisco's fabled Golden Gate Park, features unexpected juxtapositions of artwork that challenge traditional museum presentation.



Visitors take a close look at Gottfried Helnwein's masterpiece, "Epiphany II (Adoration of the Shepherds)," at the de Young Fine Arts Museum in San Francisco.

we took turns taking photos of each other against the backdrop of German artist Gerhard Richter's "Strontium." It's a large-scale mural derived from digitally manipulated photographs that, together, form a geometric black-and-white motif representing the atomic structure of strontium titanate, a synthetic substance often used to create artificial diamonds.

Late lunch was in Castro's Thai House Express. There was a lot of catching up to do over a hearty meal of mostly fish and vegetables because we haven't seen each other since my last visit to San Francisco in 2009, and I also got to know one of his new friends. We again drove around a portion of San Francisco until it was time to head out to an Amtrak station in downtown Oakland for a train ride to Sacramento.

We just missed the train, so we had to wait for the next one. The Amtrak station, just like the others, looks like something straight out of a movie. And just like airports, train stations have always been temples of love—people kiss and hug, say their hellos, or make sweet promises as they bid their goodbyes.

When I felt that rumble under my feet, I knew it was time for another nostalgic train ride.

As the sun started giving way to the moon, I could hardly make out the structures outside the window. Those moments

again reminded me of movie scenes wherein the main character is in deep thought looking out the window of a moving train, charting his next move that will either make or break him.

For many commuters, taking the train is such a blast—you could sit back and relax or take a nap, enjoy the scenery, read a book or newspaper, do your work on your laptop using your wireless card (no wi-fi yet), charge your cellular phone or use the outlet for your curling iron, have your lunch, sip your drink. Most of all, it's traffic-free.

Occasionally, the moon that particular night would illuminate the bay water, adding more charm to the already nostalgic train ride. In the olden days, train tracks were almost always built alongside water. Workers needed access to water

a span of a few days, I've traversed three time zones.

It was way past 10pm when the train reached the station in Sacramento, California's capital that has a good deal of history tracing back to gold rush days. Blocks from the train station is one of the largest and finest train museums in the country—the California State Railroad Museum. When I got off the train, I sat on a bench along with others waiting for a ride. It was great to see my friend again. The ride home was all about catching up.

It was a different world in that gated community. The soothing sound of the water feature beautifully contrasted the feel of a big concrete house on a lot crowning a cul-de-sac. Everything in the HGTV-worthy house was

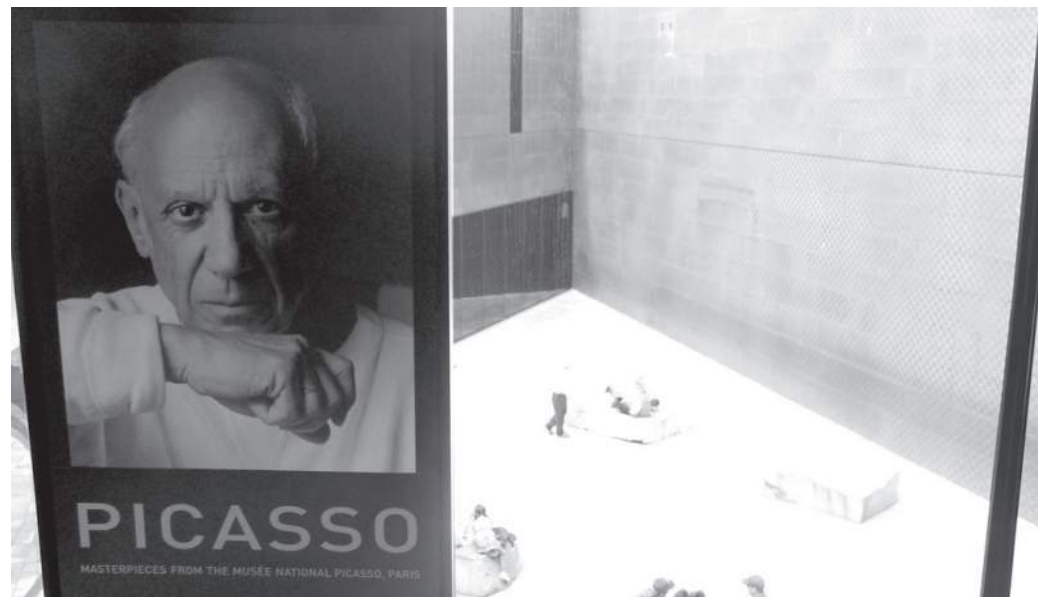


A visit to Sacramento isn't complete without a stop at the 19th-century California Capitol Building, which serves as both a museum and the state's working seat of government.

Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architects Herzog and de Meuron, the museum is home to more than 25,000 works of art from around the world. We were able to explore only a fraction of those collections, but they were already enough to send us around the world and transport us back in time.

The museum's first and second floors showcase permanent collections of American paintings, decorative art and sculpture. They also feature international contemporary art, Oceanic carvings, African art, art from ancient American civilizations, and textiles and costumes from around the world. The basement is reserved for special exhibits, such as Picasso's masterpieces.

After marveling at countless pieces of artwork,



A promotional poster of Pablo Picasso, whose more than 150 masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso in Paris were on temporary display at the de Young Fine Arts Museum in San Francisco.



The author poses beside a California grizzly bear statue. A symbol of strength and independence, the grizzly bear is the Official State Animal and is the prominent feature on the California State Flag.

and since train systems and roads weren't built yet, the trains had to follow the water.

I was tired but couldn't sleep, but that gave me time to reflect on life's journey while literally on a \$26 journey from Emeryville to Sacramento. In

grand, including the stairs to the left, the layout, and the fully functional kitchen. Throw in the complicated electronic gadgets and I could hardly make anything work without being coached, step by step. He was such a patient and gracious host. Besides the pool and other structures I recognized from photos, one other thing that I remember about the backyard was picking a fresh tomato in the garden.

They say a visit to Sacramento isn't complete without a stop at the 19th century Capitol Building, and over three quarters of a million visitors every year agree. He gave me a tour of the building which serves as both a museum and the state's working seat of government.

The Capitol Museum contains furniture, photographs, and documents from different periods, while the "green" Assembly and "red" Senate rooms are open to the public even when they're in session.

California's Capitol Building, built between 1861 and 1874, is a grand celebration of architecture, blending Greek revival and Roman-Corinthian styles to symbolize "democracy, beauty and simplicity." Visitors are treated to grand staircases, columns, colonnade windows, pilasters and a cupola with a statue on top of the 220-foot tall dome that bears resemblance to the one crowning the United States Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

In the heart of California's Capitol Building is the Rotunda, a circular room rising 128 feet from the basement of the building to the oculus at the apex of the inner dome. The Rotunda frequently serves as the main orientation space for hundreds

See SAN FRANCISCO on Next Page

New book offers glimpse of Jackson's personal life

NEW YORK (AP)—A personal assistant-turned-personal manager to Michael Jackson said the King of Pop had been taking propofol as early as 1999, and that the singer was drugged up ahead of his 2001 30th anniversary concerts.

Frank Cascio, who became a family friend to Jackson at age 5 and eventually one of the singer's closest friends and employees, writes in a new book that he first noticed Jackson taking the drug Demerol while accompanying the singer on his "Dangerous" tour in 1993.

He writes in his new book, "My Friend Michael: An Ordinary Friendship with an Extraordinary Man," that Jackson started the first of two anniversary shows in 2001 an hour late as a result of being drugged up in his dressing room.

"My naive belief that Michael wouldn't let his medicine interfere with the show blew up in my face," Cascio writes. "I can't begin to describe my disappointment and panic at this moment."

The Associated Press bought an advance copy of the book, which is set for release Nov. 15 by William Morrow, an imprint of News Corp.'s HarperCollins.

Cascio became a friend of Jackson's after his father introduced him to the singer; Cascio's father worked at the Hemsley Palace in Manhattan, managing the hotel's towers and suites, where Jackson stayed. Following that, a 5-year-old

Cascio and his younger brother Eddie, spent time with Jackson at his Neverland Ranch.

He says Jackson was first introduced to Demerol in 1984 when he burned his head during a Pepsi commercial shoot, and Cascio writes that he first noticed Jackson using the medicine on his "Dangerous" tour.

"Now, on tour, and again in deep physical pain, Michael turned back to those drugs," he wrote.

Cascio says Jackson also took propofol in 1999 in Munich when the singer was 50 feet in the air and instead of coming down slowly, the platform Jackson was on fell down. Cascio also writes that Jackson had taken Demerol to treat the skin disease vitiligo, and grew worried about his drug use.

"It had become clear to me that Michael's drug use was escalating," he wrote. Cascio said sometimes he paid doctors in cash "because all of Michael's medical issues had to be kept from the public and their cost off the books." He also said he had some of the prescriptions written out in his name.

"Over the years, I had grown accustomed to seeing doctors coming and going, particularly in late tours, when Michael was under great stress and needed help falling asleep."

Cascio said he wanted to seek out help, but didn't know who to turn to. Ahead of Jackson's 2001 anniversary shows, he



AP
In this Nov. 8, 2007 file photo, pop star Michael Jackson poses on the red carpet during the RainbowPUSH Coalition Los Angeles 10th annual awards in Los Angeles.

said he spoke to Janet, Randy and Tito about their brother's drug use. He writes that Jackson's siblings approached him, but the singer "simply pushed them away."

The pop star's doctor, Conrad Murray, was convicted Monday of involuntary manslaughter for supplying the insomnia-plagued Jackson with the powerful operating-room anesthetic propofol

to help him sleep as he rehearsed for his big comeback.

"But in the end, physical and mental anguish prevailed, and Michael died in his endless quest to attain some inner peace," Cascio writes.

"My Friend Michael" also takes a look at some of Jackson's personal and professional moments, providing a somewhat behind-the-scenes look at the King of Pop's life.

Cascio writes that he and Jackson "had gotten stoned on a few occasions up in the mountains," and that Jackson would drink wine out of juice bottles and soda cans.

Cascio and the singer grew close, and in 1993 when Jackson had been accused of child molestation charges, he asked the Cascio family to visit him in Israel while he was on tour. He later asked if the young boys could stay on tour with him.

"He went to my father and broke down crying," Cascio writes. "People might question my parents' judgment in sending two young boys off to spend time alone with a man who had been accused of molesting another boy. But to us, the suggestion that we were in any danger was completely absurd."

Jackson invited Cascio to work as his personal assistant a year after he graduated high school. He later became his personal manager.

Throughout the book, Cascio writes that Jackson never had

sex with children, but had a love for them and wanted to father 10 kids in total.

Cascio says Princess Diana was at the top of Jackson's list of women he wanted to date, and that Jackson made out with one of his fan club members.

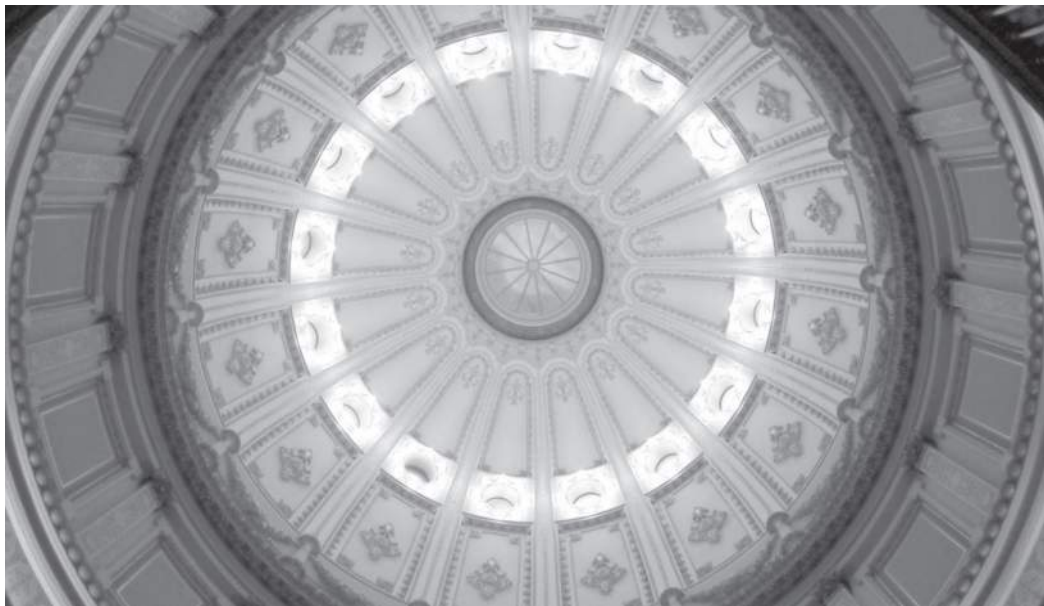
"He tended to like tall, slender women whom I'd describe as nerdy in a sexy way," he writes.

Cascio also said that Jackson used to claim that dancer and rapper Omer Bhatti, long rumored to be his love child by a Norwegian woman, was his son, though Cascio did not believe him. Jackson later admitted that it wasn't true.

"By way of an explanation, Michael gave me the same reason he'd given for his marriages to Lisa Marie and Debbie Rowe. He needed to show the Saudi prince and the rest of the Arab business world that he had a family," Cascio writes.

When he worked as his personal manager, Cascio said he had to interfere when John McClain, now the co-executor of Jackson's estate, and the director of Jackson's "You Rock My World" music video, wanted the singer "to use makeup to darken Michael's skin for the video" and "to fill in his nose with putty." Cascio said Jackson locked himself in a bathroom and cried.

"They think I'm ugly?" Jackson asked. "They think I'm a freak, they think I'm a freak, they think I'm a freak."



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
California's Capitol Building, built between 1861 and 1874, boasts of a majestic 220-foot tall dome that bears resemblance to the one crowning the United States Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

SAN FRANCISCO

From Page 18

of visitors exploring the building each day. Its main focus is a slightly over life size statue titled "Columbus' Last Appeal to Queen Isabella," perched in the center since 1883. This marble statue is complemented by Belgium black and Vermont white marble floor tiles, along with decorative murals.

Paintings, murals, and other artwork that adorn the walls also give visitors a real sense of pieces of history that shaped California. The West Wings' walls are home to the portraits

of California's governors.

My friend and I were just wondering whether the geometric mosaic tile on the second floor Rotunda was from the 1800s, when we happened to eavesdrop on a tour guide's trivia for a group of visitors.

During restoration of the building, the original tiles that did not withstand the 100 years' worth of wear and tear were removed and replaced with reproductions made from standard U.S. quarry tiles. But workers were able to install original tiles salvaged from the original floor in the second floor staircase landing.

I would always be thankful for that enlightening tour. Back in

2009, I was able to visit only portions of the 40-acre Capitol Park but not the interior of the Capitol Building because my friends and I got there way past office hours.

From a distance is the Sacramento Tower Bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge is painted gold, emblematic of its Gold Rush days and in concert with the historic buildings built during the 1850s in Old Sacramento. The bridge is repainted about every 30 years.

I met up with another friend I haven't seen also in two years. He was also gracious enough to bring me from Sacramento to Mountain View, with a stopover

at a mall for window shopping, food, and a lot more of catching up over coffee.

Mountain View, where my cousin, her husband and their two beautiful daughters live, got its name from the views of the Santa Clara Mountains. Nights were spent on a lot of catching up, a blockbuster movie, and exploration of an area teeming with international cuisine. We opted for a Vietnamese restaurant, and shared lots of laughter over Vietnamese soup dishes.

My cousin arranged for a taxicab to take me from Mountain View to the San Francisco International Airport, since she couldn't get off work that particular day. Just when I thought my California adventures were over, came a very interesting Egyptian-American cab driver doubling as a love therapist and tour guide but who heard about a U.S. island called "Saipan" for the very first time. He said his first few months in the States, he was stricken with homesickness but able to get over it by bringing his wife and family from Egypt to the U.S. And they live happily ever after. Next came his love advice, drawing from his conservative views about family, love, and life in general. While my train rides were of nostalgia, my cab ride was an interesting experience of its own. And of course, he encouraged me to someday spend at least two weeks in Egypt. Why not?



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
In the heart of Capitol Building is the Rotunda, featuring Belgium black and Vermont white marble floor tiles and a slightly over life size statue titled "Columbus' Last Appeal to Queen Isabella."

Source: Stern in talks with 'America's Got Talent'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"America's Got Talent" contestants may be facing an unlikely new judge: shock jock Howard Stern.

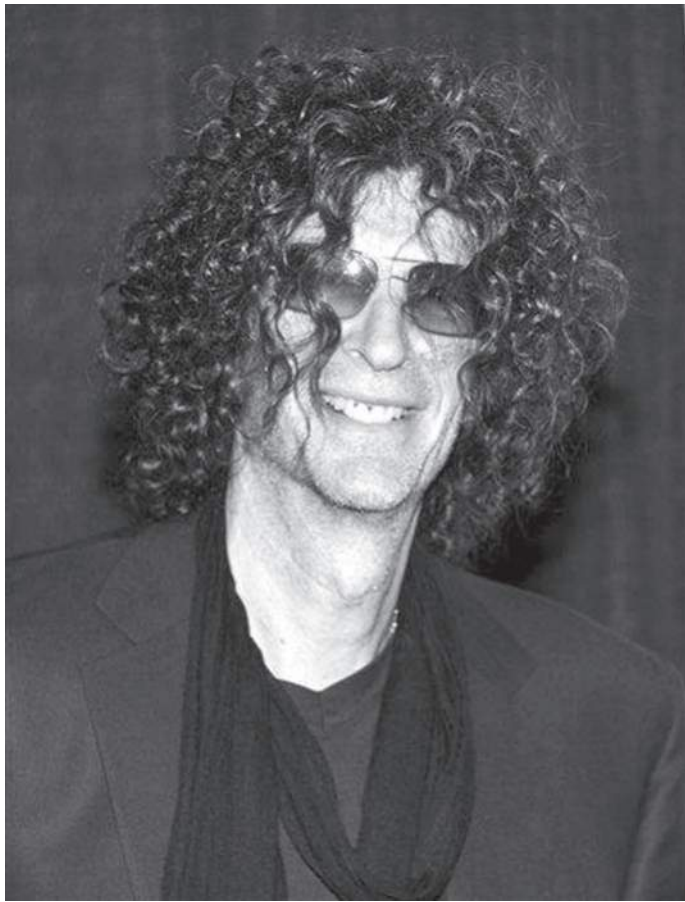
Stern was in negotiations to replace the departing Piers Morgan on NBC's talent show, a person close to the situation said Friday. The person lacked authority to discuss the talks while they were in progress and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Stern, whose show airs on subscription service Sirius XM Radio, is a regular viewer of "America's Got Talent," the person said.

An email seeking comment from Stern's agent in New York was not immediately returned.

It seems an offbeat match to pair the racy, freewheeling Stern with a network show that draws family audiences and features such contestants as angelic-sounding child singer Jackie Evancho. The show has been a summer hit for NBC with as many as 14 million weekly viewers.

In an interview with Stern on Monday, film director Brett Ratner discussed his sexual exploits in graphic language.



AP
In a Dec. 1, 2010 file photo, Howard Stern attends the Quentin Tarantino Friars Club Roast at the New York Hilton Hotel in New York.

Ratner stepped down on Tuesday as producer of next year's

Academy Award ceremony after apologizing for using a gay

slur at a screening of his new film "Tower Heist."

Stern, speaking on his show Wednesday, said he's uncomfortable with the slur but doesn't think Ratner was gay-bashing. Stern also accused the entertainment industry of hypocrisy, citing as one example the support some in Hollywood have given director Roman Polanski in his decades-old sex crimes case.

Morgan, a British journalist and TV personality, announced this week that he's leaving "America's Got Talent" to ease his schedule and focus on his CNN talk show, "Piers Morgan Tonight," and the upcoming presidential election year.

NBC isn't facing time pressure in replacing Morgan. Although "America's Got Talent" producers are already scouting new contestants for next season, the judges aren't part of filming until about February.

Stern's talks with "America's Got Talent" were first reported by The Wall Street Journal, which cited unidentified people familiar with the situation and said Stern would get about \$15 million a year to join judges Howie Mandel and Sharon Osbourne.

NBC is mulling the possibility of moving the talent show to New York to accommodate Stern, who is based in the city.

Katy Perry to give free concert at Staples Center

NEW YORK (AP)—Katy Perry is thanking her fans with a free concert in Los Angeles.

The pop singer will perform the free show on Nov. 23 at the Staples Center. Perry will also perform there on Nov. 22 as part of her "California Dreams" world tour.

She made announcement Friday on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show."

Perry's platinum-selling album, "Teenage Dream," features five No. 1 Billboard Hot 100 songs.

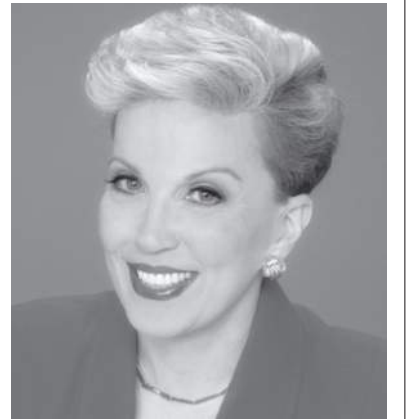
Los Angeles is the final U.S. stop on Perry's tour. She's scheduled to perform in the Philippines in January.



AP
In this July 24, 2011 file photo, singer Katy Perry attends a premiere in New York. Perry is thanking her fans with a free concert in Los Angeles.

Family allows girl's birthday to be lost in 9/11 observance

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: Sept. 11 was the 10th birthday of our neighbors' little girl, "Megan." At church that day there was a lovely memorial prayer for the victims of 9/11, but no mention of Megan's birthday among the other special occasions of the week.

Megan's family went to the cemetery, put flowers on the memorial there and then went home. There was no party or cake for Megan.

When I took over a card and a small gift, her mom thanked me but said the day was too sad for Megan to celebrate her birthday. She said they had never done so, not even on an alternate date.

I don't know this family very well. They're new to the neighborhood. But I was flabbergasted that they would act this way. When I asked about the birthdays of the other family members, I was told that since none of them fall on a "bad day" they are celebrated with parties, gifts and everything. Megan was allowed to accept my gift and thanked me, but her mom made it clear this was to be an exception to the rule. Abby, what gives?

COMPLETELY BAFFLED IN WYOMING

DEAR COMPLETELY BAFFLED: I have no idea. That family's behavior is bizarre. What could possibly be gained by punishing a child for being born on a particular day? What you have described isn't respect for a day that was tragic for our country; it is cruelty to an innocent child.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I disagree about what we should do on our date nights away from our daughters. She's nine years younger than I am.

I don't feel comfortable going to dance clubs. I don't like crowds, fighting to get the bartender's attention for a drink or dancing with 25-year-olds.

I'd prefer listening to live music, staying home and enjoying an empty house or going somewhere quiet for dinner. My wife thinks what I like is "boring" and this is creating issues in our marriage.

I want her to be happy and for both of us to enjoy each other's company. We're having a difficult time finding a compromise. I feel like I'll never live up to her standards of what's fun and entertaining. Any suggestions?

DATE NIGHT DILEMMA IN CHICAGO

DEAR DILEMMA: Yes, two of them. The first is to take turns choosing what you'll do on your date nights, so that you both have some of what you want. The second is to find some new activities you can enjoy as a couple. Shared interests will help you grow together.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: A woman at work is having a baby. I didn't get around to contributing to her group gift. I also didn't sign the card or mention my omission at the time of the baby shower.

A few days later I received a thank-you note. The mother-to-be obviously assumed I contributed. Money is extremely tight right now. Saving the \$20 I was going to spend will help my budget. I don't think anyone picked up on my faux pas. Should I keep quiet?

CONFLICTED IN MINNESOTA

DEAR CONFLICTED: You didn't commit a faux pas; you chose to abstain. I see no reason to announce that you didn't participate in the baby gift. Not contributing because it would have caused financial strain wasn't a breach of etiquette; it was prudent. If your name wasn't on the gift card, you misled no one.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby - Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

'Hawaii Five-0' cast to aid veterans project

HONOLULU (AP)—The stars of CBS' "Hawaii Five-0" will be lending a hand off-screen to military school kids at Pearl Harbor.

Actors Alex O'Loughlin, Scott Caan, Daniel Dae Kim and Masi Oka will be among the volunteers Monday helping to plant a garden at Joint Base

Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Husband and wife athletes Laird Hamilton and Gabrielle Reece will also be volunteering.

The American Heart Association Teaching Garden will serve as a hands-on way to educate children about the importance of healthy habits.

The project is part of an

initiative to support U.S. veterans through community service.

First Lady Michelle Obama, who launched her Joining Forces initiative in April with the vice-president's wife, Jill Biden, will be speaking at the base Monday during a hiring fair for veterans.

Tony Bennett visits New Orleans, plugs rebuilding

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Grammy-winning jazz crooner Tony Bennett is championing a rebuilding effort to help New Orleans residents displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

At the site of the 101st and final house built by Project Home Again, the 85-year-old singer said Friday that bringing people home is important to protect-

ing the culture and traditions of New Orleans.

Says Bennett: "The gospel music, the music that started in churches here that created the art form of jazz, that needs to be preserved."

He looked on as a gospel choir clapped and swayed while singing "Oh Happy Day" and "Ain't No Mountain High

Enough" to commemorate the project founded by his friends, New York couple Leonard and Louise Riggio.

After seeing Katrina's devastation on their TV sets following the 2005 storm, the Riggins pledged to build homes for low- and middle-income families who were forced from their homes with little hope of returning.



AP
Singer Tony Bennett, center, stands outside a newly constructed home during an event to commemorate the 101st and final home built by 'Project Return Home,' a rebuilding effort started by Barnes & Noble chairman Leonard Riggio and his wife Louise after Hurricane Katrina, in New Orleans, Friday, Nov. 11, 2011.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

EMPLOYMENT



(1) Commercial Cleaner- at least high school graduate; 2 to 4 years experience in cleaning and maintaining the building and other related duties. Reliable and trustworthy. Submit application to: Pacific Printing Press Inc. Tel No: 233-6677

Security Monitor. Salary \$5.05/hr 2yrs exp.oper CCTV, Required Police Clearance and 2 latest Employers references. Mail resume: POB 7523 or email: msc@marian-assecurity.com

(1) Commercial Cleaner. Minimum salary. Flexible schedule. Send your resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O. Box 503944 Saipan MP 96950

Rovic Catering needs 2 Cooks. \$5.05/hr, 3 years experience, flexible time, willing to work early morning. Call 287-3888

3 Masseuse/Massage Therapist w/ 2 yrs related experience. Pls call Anny @ 287-9501. A.L.L Corp. dba World Massage

(1) Assistant Sales Manager: \$1,500-2,200/mo. Bachelor's degree and at least 5 years' experience as assistant sales manager in hotel environment required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. (1) Income Auditor: \$5.05-6.00/hr. Bachelor's degree and at least 5 years' experience as

EMPLOYMENT



income auditor in hotel environment required. (1) Sales Representative: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 5 years' experience as sales representative in hotel environment required. (3) Front Desk Clerk: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 3 years' experience as front desk clerk in hotel environment required. (1) Cook (Korean cuisine): \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as Korean cuisine cook in hotel environment required. (2) Waiter/Waitress: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 2 years' experience as waiter or waitress in hotel environment required. (3) Maintenance Worker: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 5 years' experience as maintenance worker in hotel environment required. (2) Maintenance Worker: \$5.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience in landscaping, machinery repair, and general maintenance required. (5) Housekeeping Cleaner: \$5.05-5.10/hr. At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner in hotel environment required. (1) Housekeeping Cleaner: \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner required. Interested applicants may e-mail resume to changshin@hanmisaipan.com. Chang Shin Resort Saipan Corporation.

(1) General Manager (Accounting): \$1,000-2,000/mo. 4 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required. (1) Accountant: \$5.05-8.50/hr. Bachelor's degree in accounting required. 5 years of accounting experience required. (1) Accountant: \$5.05-8.50/hr. Bach-

EMPLOYMENT



elor's degree in accounting required. Must have received college-level instruction in U.S. GAAP. Public accounting experience required. Interested applicants may e-mail resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com. Provenance, Inc.

20+ positions. Cleaner/Maid/Gardener. 2 yrs work rel. exp. Flexible hrs req. Qualified U.S. workers send resume to dfaloan@yahoo.com or call 285-9390.

(1) Jewelry Appraiser. Must have 4 – 5 yrs experience in jewelry appraisal, honest and trustworthy. (1) Electrical Supervisor (Refrigeration & Air-conditioning). Must be a college graduate with 10 yrs experience in the field of electricity and in refrigeration and air-conditioning system. Skilled and knowledgeable in electrical plan and design. Registered Master Electrician required and certified in refrigeration and air-conditioning—Universal License. Applicants must mail resume with valid identifications, police clearance and previous employment certification to GOLDEN EAGLE CORPORATION PMB 326 PPP BOX 10000 SAIPAN, MP 96950.

(1) Butcher: \$5.05/hr. High School graduated. At least three years of experience required. Email resume to dolim@hanmisaipan.com.

(1) Maintenance and repair Worker, General: \$5.05/hr. Email resume to mikes@hanmisaipan.com.

(1) Store clerk: \$5.05/hr., (1) Sales Supervisor: \$5.05/hr. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

(1) Security Guard: \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as hotel security guard required. Email resume to changshin@hanmisaipan.com.

(2) Auto Repairer: \$5.05/hr. At least three years of experience required. Email resume to wonso@hanmisaipan.com.

EMPLOYMENT



(1) Steel Welder and (1) Commercial Cleaner. With 3 years experience. Minimum wage. Must be able to work flexible hours. Email resume to splicspn@yahoo.com no later than Nov. 19, 2011. South Pacific Lumber Co.

YokYung Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager, (1) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer. Preferable Korean speaking. Minimum wage. Please fax resume to 235-7742. Attention: YokYung Corporation.

Rising Star, LLC is looking for (1) Commercial Cleaner. Salary-\$5.05/hr. Please fax resume to 235-7742.

Saipan Hwa Rang Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager—5 yrs. experience in Hotel and Construction business. Preferably Japanese, Korean and English speaking. (3) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer – at least 2 years experience, willing to work flexible hours and night time. Interested applicants, please call 287-4488 from 11:00am–4:00pm.

(1) General Maintenance Mechanic—at least 2 years experience in Scuba Diving business. Fax resume to Crow's Nests Corporation at 235-7742.

(1) Bookkeeper at least 2 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Qualified US Workers may fax resume to 235-2231. Island Essence Inc.

(1) Grounds Maintenance Worker at least 3 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Please submit resume with attached copies of driver's license, police and health clearance to Man's Services, LLC P.O. Box 503393 Saipan, MP 96950.

CAD Operator. 5 yrs exp in Public Utilities (water & wastewater) design. ACAD v2012. Send resume to PO Box 5339

3 Managers Wholesale/Retail w/ 3 yrs experience Pls contact Stacy at 2879288 LW Corporation.

FOR RENT
GOLF Driving Range (Middle road)
Available Nov. 15, 2011
Pls Contact **234-6676 Roy**

WHATZIT Solution: Fingernails

FOR SALE

San Vicente—Eastern side, 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 2 storey, ocean view, 1200 sq. ft, 800 sq. mtr. lot, 50yrs remaining - \$100K



Capitol Hill across Department of Commerce, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 800 sq. ft lot +commercial building. New lease \$130K

Please call Tim at 483-9351 or email mmtp15@mail.ru

HOUSE FOR RENT

2-Storey House in Dandan
2 1/2 bedroom & 2 1/2 bath
Semi-furnished.
\$475 monthly rent.
Contact No. 235-8389

REWARD

Sony Cybershot Camera (Black) and
Buffalo External Hard-Drive (Red)
Stolen a few weeks ago.
Mike 483-4868

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) **General Manager**, Salary: \$2,000 - \$2,500.
10 yrs work exp. Preferably speak and write Japanese.
(1) **Mechanical Engineer**, Salary: \$1,700 - \$2,200.
10 yrs work exp. w/Bachelors Degree.

Qualified U.S. workers send resume to Sanki Co. Ltd. at sanki@pticom.com

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION : BID/CONTRACTS SPECIALIST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent Work Related Experience
- Minimum of three years experience in contracts administration
- Background in/Knowledge of government contracts process and negotiation preferred
- Excellent interpersonal skills as well as excellent oral and written communication skills are required
- Must be proficient in DDMS Software with intermediate/advanced skills in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation applications.
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : GOVERNMENT SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Minimum of 10 year business experience including 5 years sales experience in the government sector with a demonstrated record of success
- Ability to manage a pipeline of 50+ accounts at any given time
- Experience with and demonstrated proficiency with MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel) and DDMS Software
- Manage and monitor the MRO purchases of customers
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : CREDIT ANALYST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associates Degree in Business/Related Discipline or Equivalent Work Related Experience
- A minimum of five years experience in a credit/collections environment
- Proficiency in MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS Publisher) and DDMS Software
- Strong ability to communicate both orally and in writing
- Ability to be flexible with position duties and scope of work
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : ACCOUNTANT (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting
- Minimum five years work-related experience in general accounting in the retail industry
- Must be able to prepare and maintain G/L, financial statements and reports
- Must be able to prepare payroll and monthly, quarterly and annual tax returns
- Must know CNMI & Federal tax rules
- Must be proficient in MS Word and Excel, Peach Tree Accounting and DDMS Software
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

POSITION : INVENTORY CONTROL SPECIALIST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- 3-5 years experience in related field
- Working knowledge of inventory practices
- Cost accounting background
- Proficient with PC software to include: word, excel and DDMS
- Ability to write routine reports and correspondence
- Detail oriented and well organized
- Must be flexible to work weekends and holidays
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATE (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate's Degree
- Minimum 4 years work-related experience in general accounting in a retail company.
- Must have extensive knowledge and experience in receivables, payables, shipments documentation, inventory control, costing, billing and invoicing.
- Check documentation to comply with Gov't/Custom Regulatory requirements on imports.
- Must be proficient in MS Excel and Peach Tree Accounting Software.
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 19, 2011.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ACCOUNTANT (1) – Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, Excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End Reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: \$5.05 to \$ 7.50/hr.

GENERAL MECHANIC (1) – Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: \$5.05 to \$ 7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7688 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or may email to saipan@americopters.com. No phone calls please.

Choi Corporation
dba: Korea Hardware
is now hiring

1 - Assistant Manager
1 - Building Electrician
1 - Material Coordinator
2 - Sales Representative with 5-10 yrs. experience in hardware store. Can speak both English and Korean.

1 - Accountant/ Bookkeeper with 10 yrs. experience in hardware store.

1 - Commercial Cleaner with previous experience.

Interested party shall submit their resume with the police clearance and the recommendation letter from previous employer to Korea Hardware or fax to 235-0697.

No Phone Calls Please.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, November 18, 2011 beginning at 9:30am at MPLT Conference Room, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I PRELIMINARIES**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes October 12, 2011
- II ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**
- III CONSULTANT'S REPORTS**
 1. Investment Consultant Report
 2. Board Consultant Report
- IV Legal Counsel**
- V OLD BUSINESS**
 1. SSBCI/CDA
 2. Alternative Investment- draft MPLT 11-7
 3. CHC – Electronic Health Record (E.H.R)
 4. Worker's Compensation
- VI COMMUNICATIONS**
 - DPL
- VII NEW BUSINESS**
 - Office Relocation
- VIII MISCELLANEOUS**
- IX ADJOURNMENT**

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Alvaro A. Santos
Chairman, MPLT Trustees

Wanted – Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Call 532-3423 for interview.

DMY Realty and Management needs....

(2) General Building Maintenance Worker
Starting Salary \$6.00/hr.
2 to 4 years work experience in carpentry, plumbing, masonry & electrical w/ references.
Only U.S. qualified workers need apply.
Interested applicants may submit their resume at dmyram.saipan@gmail.com

Frank's Retail Clothing
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Seamstress
Salary: \$5.05/hr. 5 years work related experience. Must be able to operate factory type heavy duty sewing machines. Must be able to create or use clothing patterns and do cutting and sewing of garment materials.
Interested individuals may call 323-8248, ask for Frank.

IVERTCH SOLUTIONS, LLC.
Job Vacancy Announcement
IT MANAGER - with 5 years of work experience
ART DIRECTOR - with 5 years of work experience
ACCOUNTANT - with 5 years of work experience
dba. Saipan Tuna.com
COOK - with 5 years of work experience
Interested qualified US workers can email their resume to ivertechsolutions@gmail.com

Pacific Taxi Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement
15 - Taxi Drivers. Salary Rate: \$5.05/hr and \$1.50 per trip. Must have at least 1 year of taxi driving experience in the CNMI. Must be a holder of a valid CNMI Driver's License, CNMI Taxi Driver's License, and a CNMI Taxi Bureau Identification Card. Current Police Clearance, Traffic Clearance and Traffic History. Willing to work flexible hours.
Interested applicants may send resume to P.O. Box 10003 PMB 461, Saipan, MP 96950 or call 285-4359/287-8294
Please send your resume no later than Nov. 21, 2011

Job Vacancy Announcement
BAKER
Knowledge in baking bread, pies, tarts, cookies, cakes, and cupcakes and making chilled desserts. Knowledge in Fondant making, cake and cupcake designing is a must. Must be creative and have a good eye for detail. Must be able to work flexible hours. High school graduate with 2-3 years experience. Salary \$ 5.05/hr.
Email your resume at pieceofcake670@gmail.com

new wave dental

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Dental Assistant
5 years minimum experience. Must also be able to fabricate partial dentures. \$6.50/hour

Dental Hygienist
3 years minimum experience. \$6.50 to \$8.00/hour

Bookkeeper/Office Assistant
Must have good computer skills. Must be confident, outgoing and professional. \$6.00+ / hour

Drop resume with photo to our clinic, located in Middle Road across Garapan Central Park. Call 233-3300 only if needed.

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Call 235-6397

WONGU CORPORATION

(1) GENERAL MANAGER. Must have the ability to plan, direct, coordinate, manage, and oversee the company's overall operations. At least a High School graduate, computer literate, and have a minimum 2 yrs experience. Knowledge of Korean language is important to cater majority of Korean clients. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

(1) SUPERVISOR. Minimum 2 yrs experience. Knowledge of Korean language is important to cater majority of Korean clients. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

WONGU CORPORATION dba SGN Business Center

(1) EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT. At least a High School or Secretarial Course Graduate, computer literate, and at least 2 yrs experience. Have the ability to provide high-level administrative support. Background in insurance or underwriting. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

(1) COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST. At least a High School Graduate or Computer -Related Course Graduate, with minimum 2 yrs experience, and with driver's license. Knowledge of Korean language is important to cater majority of Korean clients. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

WONGU CORPORATION dba SGN Manpower Services

(3) BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER. At least a High School Graduate with 2 years minimum experience. Valid driver's license. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

(1) CONSTRUCTION LABORER. At least a High School Graduate with 2 yrs minimum experience and has a driver's license. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

(10) HOUSEKEEPERS. At least a High School Graduate, with minimum of 2 yrs experience. Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary: \$5.05/hr.

Bring the following documents to Wongu Corp.
2/F, Rm. 211 of Payless Shoesource Bldg.
Resume, Passport, Police Clearance,
2 letters of recommendation and/or
certification from previous employer.
Monday-Thursday (1:00PM-4:00PM) Only.

Se Hoon Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) TOUR COORDINATOR. Salary: \$5.05 - \$10.00/hr. Can Speak and write in Korean language with 2-5 years work related experience. Can work flexible hours and day.

Interested U.S. qualified worker may fax resume to 322-3316.

Job Vacancy Announcement

GOOD CARE, LLC

(1) Interpreter

Must have 4 years experience as interpreter. Must be fluent in writing and reading Japanese and English. Knowledgeable about tourism industry preferred. Must have experience in general office work.
Salary: \$6.92-\$7.25/hr.

Interested qualified US workers can send resume to goodcare@pticom.com

Gentle Care Home Health

Registered Nurse (1) BSN – US Lic is required NCLEX, IELTS 6.5 if foreign graduate. Psychiatric and or Substance Abuse background to help promote healthy lifestyle changes. 1 ½ to 2yrs experience in Home Health & has handled 40-50 Px. Computer literate.

Physical Therapist (2) – BS graduate 2 years experience, US license.

Submit resume to Gentle Care, Beach Road (beside Rainbow Color) or email at gentlecaresaipan@gmail.com or at P.O. Box 503795, CK Saipan MP 96950.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Sasha Co., Ltd.
is announcing a vacancy of

(1) General Manager

Job requirements: Bachelor Degree; Knowledge of the Russian tourism market; knowledge of tour company operations; knowledge of local hospitality industry and land operations; Professional Knowledge and skills in scuba diving; Language skills - Russian-fluent oral and written, English-confident oral and written (preferably E-094 or higher); Computer skills (Microsoft Word and Excel, Adobe Photoshop); 5 years experience in tourism and scuba diving industry; Licenses: driving is a must, scuba diving rating no lower than Course Director; Must be legal to work in the C.N.M.I.

For inquires and resume submission, via fax to 234-6286.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Speedy Turtle Dive Shop
is announcing a vacancy of

(1) Dive Shop Manager

with wages of \$1,120.00 per month.
Job requirements: Hold rating no lower as Certified NAUI Diving Instructor; experience in Scuba Diving instructing at least 5 years; Must have no less than 1,000 registered dives; knowledge of scuba diving gear, maintenance and repair; familiarity with air compressor machinery and have experience in running such machinery; knowledge and experience in underwater video and photo filming; computer skills, including video editing software; knowledge of scuba diving, free diving and snorkeling gear in order to run diving gear shop; Language skills - Russian (oral and written fluent).

For inquires and resume submission, fax to 234-6286.

New Sunrise Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

(4) Transportation Driver
(12) Taxi Driver
Min. 3 yrs of working experience preferably in the hotel industry. Good customer service and interpersonal skills are essential. Must be a holder of a valid CNMI Driver's License. CNMI Taxi Driver's license and CNMI Taxi Bureau Identification Card. Current Police Clearance, Traffic Clearance and Traffic History. Must have valid CNMI Drivers Fitness Medical Certificate and willing to work flexible schedule including early morning, night, weekends and holidays. Foreign language speaking skills is highly preferred.

(1) Manager, Sales & Marketing
Min. 3 yrs work experience as manager in Sales & Marketing. Responsible for developing, establishing and maintaining marketing strategies to meet organizational objectives. Able to work independently. Good organizational and planning skills are essential. Accountable for customer satisfaction and providing high quality service in representing company.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. All positions will close on November 14, 2011.

Please mail your resume with attached copies of relevant supporting documents to: P.O. Box 505383 Saipan, MP 96950 or Email: nsc.rahman@gmail.com

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0261
Plaintiff,	
-v-	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
DIEGO A. SASAMOTO and ANICIA S. SASAMOTO,	
Defendants,	

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

DATED, this 26th day of October, 2011:

/s/ Clerk of Court

Job Announcement for Salty Saipan Corp.

Interior Designer (Full Time)

Must have B.A. degree in Fine Arts or Interior Design. Strong team building, organization, communication skills are essential. With 8 years or more experience in preparing comprehensive interior design packages including architectural detailing and knowledge of construction documentation. AutoCAD experience is essential. Individual must possess excellent presentation skills and have the ability to manage multiple projects. Conceptual sketching ability desired. LEED AP accredited is a plus. Awareness and experience in workplace strategies and solutions a plus. Adobe Photoshop, illustrator program knowledge.

Licensed Acupuncturist (Full Time)

Must have Master of Science in Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine. Must have a Licensed to practice Acupuncture in the State & CNMI. Fluent Korean & English (More than 50% of patients are Korean). With 5 years or more experience in same field. Basic computer skills are essential.

Send resume to annesong71@gmail.com
No staffing agencies. No phone calls please.

Alomar, Blyleven elected to Hall of Fame

Minor wins doubles in Australia

Sablan, other delegates come out swinging as 112th Congress starts

Reporter's Notebook

Saipan Tribune

CNMI's FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 2011

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Stern: 'Greedy' agents hurting chances of NBA deal



NEW YORK (AP)—Commissioner David Stern blamed “greedy” NBA agents Saturday for trying to scuttle a new labor deal and believes they are trying to push their clients into a “losing strategy” of decertification.

And Stern says neither the threat of that process nor any request from the union will change the league’s negotiating position, repeating that there would be no further discussions about the revised proposal it offered Thursday. If players don’t accept it, Stern reiterated that he would move to the harsher proposal that is waiting.

Stern is aware of the numerous comments from players criticizing the proposal, and fears they aren’t getting the proper information about its contents because agents worry it will cost themselves money.

“By some combination of mendacity and greed, the agents who are looking out for themselves rather than their clients are trying to scuttle the deal,” Stern said in a phone interview. “They’re engaged in what appears to be an orchestrated Twitter campaign and a series of interviews that are designed to deny the economic realities of the proposal.”

Player representatives will meet Monday and decide if they should put it to a vote. The indication Thursday from union leaders was that they weren’t impressed with it, and a number of players have since been quoted saying they would shoot down the deal.

Stern said that’s because the agents want them to, not because it’s a bad offer.



National Basketball Association commissioner David Stern speaks to the news media after a marathon meeting with the Players Association, Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011, in New York.

AP

“No one talks about the rise in compensation under the deal, no one talks about the amount of money being spent,” Stern said. “I just think that the players aren’t getting the information, the true information from their agents, who are banding together, sort of the coalition of the greedy and the mendacious, to do whatever they can not to have fewer opportunities for the agents to make money.”

The revised proposal, though still far short of what the players had in the former collective bargaining agreement, offered some improvements over the one players said Tuesday they

would reject. It increased the “mini” midlevel exception for teams over the luxury tax to \$3 million annually for three years, allowed taxpayers to take part in sign-and-trades for the first two years, and added another midlevel for teams under the salary cap.

It still may not be good enough, and players are already discussing decertifying the union so they can file an anti-trust lawsuit against the league instead. Stern said neither that, nor the union disclaiming as NFL players did, would give the players they leverage they seek.

And because it’s a lengthy

process, it would likely kill any hopes for a 2011-12 season.

“Yes, I am worried,” Stern said, “because they’re talking up this thing called decertification which is not a winning strategy on the one hand. On the second hand, it’ll take three months to teach them it’s not a winning strategy, which would not augur well for the season.”

The agents misunderstand it and all it does is delay things. They themselves think that if the players decertify, then the league will change its offer. And that will not happen as a result of decertification. It’s a losing strategy for them.”

Stern again said there would be no further discussion about the revised proposal. Should players reject it, the next proposal calls for a 53-47 revenue split in favor of the owners, a flex cap with a hard ceiling, and salary rollbacks.

Stern said the proposal was delivered to the union Friday. Union leaders have been criticized for not getting the details of it out to players in time to prepare them for an educated vote.

“They say they are done negotiating. If we really are at that point, the players need to see exactly what is on the table - not

the internet, not Twitter - and see exactly in writing, this is the proposal,” one agent said.

Should players accept the deal, a 72-game season would start Dec. 15. Stern said he hoped the season could be saved, but added that he wasn’t sure what to believe because “the agents are trying to do their best to bring it down.”

And if Stern were running the meeting Monday, he knows what he would tell the player reps.

“This is our only shot to get a 72-game season starting on Dec 15. Take the deal, let’s go back and play basketball,” he said.

Tiger in range of leaders Down Under



SYDNEY (AP)—Tiger Woods finished off his best performance of the year. He had to wait after closing with a 5-under 67 to see if it would be enough Sunday at the Australian Open.

Right when it looked as if one bad shot would take him out of the tournament, Woods chipped in for eagle on the 14th hole and pulled within one shot of the lead. He missed a 12-foot eagle putt on the 17th that would have tied for the lead, and walked off The Lakes trailing Greg Chalmers by two shots.

Woods finished at 11-under 277 and was headed for his best finish of the year. He was assured of being the low American in the Australian Open, which should at least help quiet critics of Fred Couples picking him for the Presidents Cup next week at Royal Melbourne.

Looking more like he did the opening two rounds, Woods ran off three birdies on his front nine

and to pull within two shots of Greg Chalmers heading to the back nine.

Chalmers was at 11-under par through six holes, one shot ahead of Nick O’Hern.

Woods was tied with Jason Day, who hit his opening tee shot into the water, and 54-hole leader John Senden. Another Australian, defending champion Geoff Ogilvy, was 6 under for the round through 15 holes and only three shots out of the lead.

Most of the birdie chances come on the back nine of The Lakes, and Woods’ goal was to play a solid front nine to at least give himself a chance at winning for the first time in two years.

Despite missing a good birdie chance on the opening hole, Woods had good control of his shots along the tougher front nine. He hit the third fairway for the first time all week and holed a 15-foot putt, then made a 6-foot birdie try on the next hole. Key to his round, however, were a couple of pars.

After his one bad miss on the front nine—an approach well

left of a right hole location—he pitched over a large hump to 6 feet and made it for par. He also had a good lag from 40 feet up another severe slope, and hit putter through 10 feet of the kikuya grass to tap-in range on the seventh.

Woods made his other birdie on the par-5 eighth with a 3-wood into the wind, not quite as pure as Friday, but good enough to get into the left bunker for an easy up-and-down.

Woods began the day six shots behind. He has won from that far behind on the last day only once in his career, in 1998 at the Johnnie Walker Championship in Thailand, when he rallied from an eight-shot deficit and wound up beating Ernie Els in a playoff.

Meanwhile, Woods has another corporate endorsement, this one to fill the void on his golf bag.

In a deal announced Thursday, Woods signed an exclusive endorsement deal with Fuse Science, Inc., a Florida-based sports nutrition company. This comes

five weeks after the 14-time major champion became an endorsement ambassador for Rolex.

The significance of his deal with Fuel Science is that it finally gives Woods an endorsement for his golf bag. Behind his Nike TW hat, the bag is the biggest billboard for Woods for as much TV times that he gets at golf tournaments.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Woods will not display the company on his bag, however, until the Chevron World Challenge that starts Dec. 1 in California. He is playing the Australian Open this week, then goes to the Presidents Cup at Royal Melbourne, where corporate endorsements for players give way to team uniforms for the week.

Woods has not had an endorsement on his bag since AT&T dropped him nearly two years ago when he was exposed for having multiple extramarital affairs. He had his name and the TW logo on his bag when he returned at the 2010 Masters, and has kept that since.

Fuse has a short history with athletes returning from a down-

fall. It signed a five-year deal with Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick when he returned from serving a federal sentence for dog fighting. The deal was canceled about a week later when the company discovered that Vick also had signed a deal with another sports nutrition company.

Over the last two months, Fuse Science also has signed endorsement contracts with Tampa Bay cornerback Ronde Barber and Houston Texans running back Arian Foster.

Woods, who opened with a 68 at the Australian Open, was playing his second round at The Lakes. He said in a press release announcing the deal that the company’s nutrition technology will be a “game-changer in how we live our lives every day.”

“This company is laying the foundation for some very significant things,” Woods said.

Woods had lost endorsement deals with AT&T, Accenture, Tag Heuer, Gatorade and Gillette since the crash in his personal life. Two of the three new deals he has signed since July are related to health products.

Woods also has a deal with a Japanese company that makes a heat rub product. The market for that deal is mainly in Asia.

“This is a very big day for our company,” president and chief operating officer Brian Tuffin said in a release. “Our partnership with the world’s best is an enabler to have a worldwide impact sooner than later. Tiger recognizes the significance of the journey we’re on as a company, and wants to be part of our growth.”

Woods will represent the Fuse Science technology, intellectual property, unique delivery system, and future products to be developed in the sports nutrition and energy categories.

Woods has gone two years without winning and has dropped to No. 58 in the world, his lowest since he turned pro in 1996 at age 20. He missed most of the summer this year with recurring injuries to his left leg, though he said those are fully healed.

“There is not an ounce of doubt that there is much more excellence to come,” Tuffin said, “and we’re glad being ‘Powered by Fuse’ can be a part of it.”

Papelbon, Phillies agree to \$50-million contract



PHILADELPHIA
(AP)—Jonathan Pa-

papelbon can do his Irish Jig on Broad Street.

A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that the Philadelphia Phillies and Papelbon have agreed to a \$50 million, four-year contract that's the largest ever for a reliever. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Friday because the deal had not yet been announced and is subject to Papelbon passing a physical.

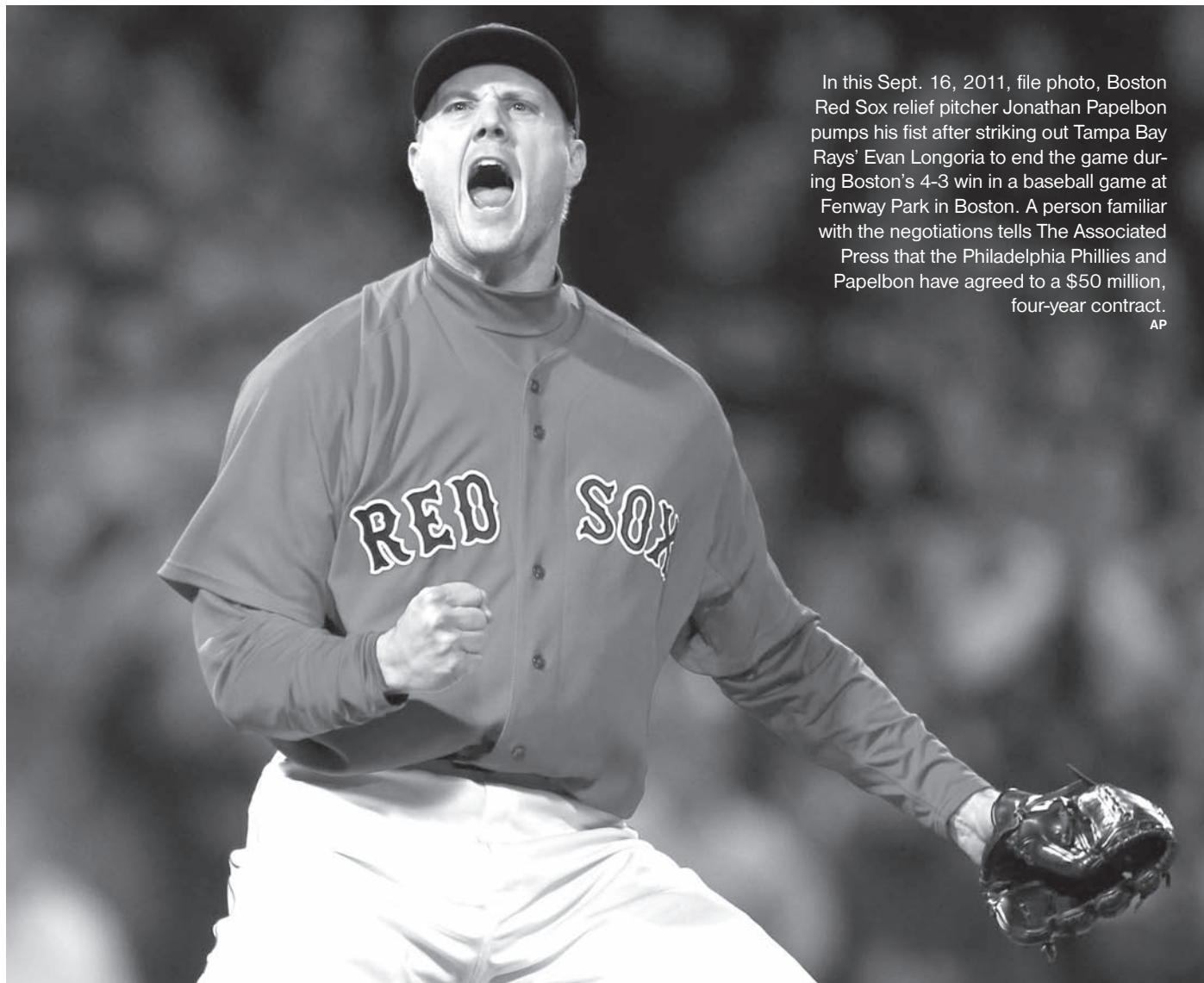
Papelbon, who turns 31 on Nov. 23, had 219 saves over seven seasons with the Boston Red Sox, including 31 this year, when he made \$12 million. He will replace Ryan Madson, who also is a free agent.

The previous high for relievers had been \$47 million, with B.J. Ryan agreeing to a five-year contract with Toronto before the 2006 season and Joe Nathan getting a four-year deal from Minnesota in March 2008.

Papelbon's deal includes an option for 2016 that could become guaranteed based on games finished and would make the deal worth \$63 million over five seasons.

Madson's agent, Scott Boras, and Phillies general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. were close to a \$44 million, four-year deal on Monday. But the person familiar with Papelbon's deal said Amaro told Boras the following day that team president Dave Montgomery wouldn't approve the deal. That offer included a vesting option that would have taken the contract to \$57 million over five years.

The Phillies have long been opposed to giving pitchers contracts beyond three years. They made an exception last year when they signed left-hander Cliff Lee to a \$120 million, five-



In this Sept. 16, 2011, file photo, Boston Red Sox relief pitcher Jonathan Papelbon pumps his fist after striking out Tampa Bay Rays' Evan Longoria to end the game during Boston's 4-3 win in a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston. A person familiar with the negotiations tells The Associated Press that the Philadelphia Phillies and Papelbon have agreed to a \$50 million, four-year contract.

AP

year deal.

The right-handed Papelbon, a four-time All-Star, helped the Red Sox to the 2007 World Series title. He donned a kilt and danced his trademark Irish jig at the championship celebration.

Papelbon can do whatever he likes if he can help the Phillies secure another World Series title. Philadelphia has won five straight NL East titles and is seeking its second Series victory since 2008. The Phillies lost in the World Series to the New York Yankees in 2009, were eliminated in the NLCS in 2010 and got knocked out in the NL division series this year.

Madson was outstanding in his first year as the team's closer, converting 32 of 34 chances. He was Brad Lidge's setup man for the previous three years, and spent his first nine seasons in Philadelphia. Madson was 47-30 with a 3.59 ERA and 52 saves in 491 career games, including 18 starts.

Papelbon, a starter in the minor leagues, has converted 88.3 percent of his save opportunities to go with a 23-19 record and a 2.33 ERA in 396 career appearances. He had a career-high 41 saves in 2008.

Signing a closer and re-sign-

ing former NL MVP Jimmy Rollins were Philadelphia's top two offseason priorities. Rollins, a three-time All-Star shortstop, wants to return

to the Phillies and the team wants to bring him back at the right price.

Papelbon is a Type A free agent, meaning the Phillies will

Free-agent Pujols receives offer from Marlins

MIAMI (AP)—A surprising visit by Albert Pujols sent a message: The Miami Marlins will be a much different franchise than the Florida Marlins.

Pujols picked an unlikely locale to begin his free-agent tour Friday when he was courted in Miami by the Marlins, only hours before they officially changed their name during a ceremony at their new ballpark. Pujols had lunch with team officials, checked out the stadium and received a contract offer.

The notoriously thrifty franchise, suddenly in the mood for a spending spree, declined to disclose details of the contract proposal. Free agents Jose Reyes and left-hander Mark Buehrle also received offers after taking ballpark tours earlier this week.

"We've never been penny-pinchers," owner Jeffrey Loria said. "We just haven't had the ability to do it in the old stadium. Now we're looking forward to a new era."

The 31-year-old Pujols, a three-time NL MVP, is a free agent for the first time after spending his first 11 major league seasons with St. Louis. Pujols and the Cardinals didn't discuss a contract extension during the season, which ended with a World Series title, but he hasn't ruled out remaining in St. Louis.

"We're just going to see where God takes us," Pujols

said last week.

It could be Miami, now that the Marlins have become aggressive free-agent shoppers. They expect crowds of more than 30,000 nightly next season, meaning a revenue increase that will allow the frugal franchise to be more active in free agency.

Loria and a contingent of team officials even visited the Dominican Republic on Thursday to watch a private workout by highly regarded Cuban outfielder Yoenis Cespedes.

"We're looking at everyone," Loria said. "We want to make this team as special as we can. We would be foolish not to entertain the possibility of some of these players. It's just one of those things that mean you're going forward. We've had our hands tied for a long time. With this new stadium we want to step into a new light."

New manager Ozzie Guillen is expected to help recruiting efforts.

"Miami is a magnet - the city, the manager, the new ballpark, the players we have," Loria said. "We have a terrific core here. All of it put together is the magnet."

The Marlins are expected to increase their payroll from \$57 million this year to at least \$80 million in 2012. Signing Pujols would likely mean spending even more.

Marlins president David

have to forfeit their first draft pick in next year's amateur draft to Boston - unless that rule changes in the new collective bargaining agreement.

Papelbon, the first major free-agent signing this year, is the first player to leave the Red Sox in a turbulent offseason that began with the departure of manager Terry Francona and was followed by general manager Theo Epstein going to the Chicago Cubs. David Ortiz, Jason Varitek, J.D. Drew, Tim Wakefield and Erik Bedard also are free agents.

"Pap has worked extremely hard to put himself in this position," Red Sox general manager Ben Cherington said. "We knew he was going to be in demand. We knew teams in a position to win would have an interest, and Philadelphia is one of those teams."

Papelbon blew a save on the final day of the regular season to complete Boston's monumental collapse that led to all those changes. The Red Sox led the AL East for much of the season and held a nine-game lead over Tampa Bay in the wild-card race on the morning of Sept. 4. But Boston went 7-20 in September to blow the lead and miss the playoffs entirely. Papelbon was one strike away from securing a win against the Orioles in the final game before giving up two runs in Baltimore's 4-3 win.

Samson made it sound unlikely that the team would be willing to pay all three veterans they're courting if Pujols, Reyes and Buehrle accept offers.

"It's a problem we never suspected could happen," Samson said. "It didn't even occur to me. We have a first choice, a 1A and a 1B after 1. This week did not happen by accident. We knew who we wanted to see, and when we wanted to see them."

Pujols would be the big prize. The Cardinals exercised a \$16 million option on his contract after last season. The slugger rejected a multiyear extension that included a small percentage of the franchise during the winter, and cut off negotiations on the first day of spring training.

Pujols' numbers in nearly every major offensive category are on a three-year decline, but he remains among the game's elite players. He hit 37 home runs this year, running the 30-homer streak to 11 years, and batted .299 with 99 RBIs. He led the Cardinals' improbable late-season surge and became only the third player to hit three home runs in a World Series game.

Loria said the meeting with Pujols went well.

"He's terrific," Loria said. "I can only tell you that he loved the stadium, he liked being here, he liked the flavor of Miami. We're hopeful some of these deals will happen."

Astros sale to Crane set for approval

NEW YORK (AP)—The proposed sale of the Houston Astros from Drayton McLane to Jim Crane is on the agenda for approval when baseball owners meet next week, The Associated Press has learned.

Two people familiar with the negotiations say McLane, Crane and Major League Baseball have reached an understanding on how a possible shift of the franchise to the American League in 2013 would take place. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because MLB had made no announcements.

Last May, McLane and Crane announced a sale valued at \$680 million, the second-highest purchase price in baseball history behind the \$845 million purchase of the Chicago Cubs by the Ricketts family two years ago.

Progress toward approval slowed when MLB wanted Crane to accept a possible

switch to the AL. The under-standing on a switching the Astros out of the National League was part of a new negotiation that covered several points, one of the people said.

The players' association has pushed for switch to two 15-team leagues, saying it would create a more equitable schedule. The earliest any league switch would take place is 2013.

The deal also was placed on the agenda for the Aug. 18 meeting at Cooperstown, then withdrawn before owners arrived. The people familiar with the negotiations said it appeared it would remain on the agenda next Thursday when the owners hold meetings in Milwaukee.

McLane, who bought the team in November 1992 for about \$117 million, put the franchise up for sale a year ago. Crane has tried to buy the Astros before, approaching

McLane about it in 2008, but McLane turned him down.

The sale is expected to include the ballpark owned by the Harris County Houston Sports Authority and a regional sports network set to begin airing Houston Rockets games in 2012 and Astros games in 2013.

Crane, who founded a Houston-based logistics company in 2008, is the chairman and chief executive officer of Crane Capital, a private equity fund company. Two years ago, he was in the running to buy the Chicago Cubs and last summer he tried to buy the Texas Rangers.

In September, Crane expressed frustration at how long it was taking MLB to move on the sale and noted there is a Nov. 30 deadline.

Crane has not responded to requests for an interview. Neither he nor McLane returned messages from the AP on Friday.

The Week in Sports

GCA Eagles put on a show

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The week belonged to Grace Christian Academy, as it posted impressive performances in two separate competitions.

In the 2011-2012 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League, the Eagles claimed the varsity championship after beating Saipan International School in the finals, 26-24, 24-26, 15-8. GCA finished the COPSSA volleyball season undefeated and avenged its loss to the Geckos last season.

The Eagles were also undefeated in the 12-game regular season in the 2011-2012 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Volleyball League

and will be seeded first in this week's playoff round.

Still in the MISO competition, the MHS Lady Dolphins swept the regular season of the varsity division of the girls basketball after winning over SIS and Kagman High School last week.

In football, MP United 1 posted a perfect record, too, in the boys U15 division of the NMIFA youth fall league. MP United Blue completed an immaculate slate in the regular season after shutting out Tan Holdings, 6-0, in the final week of the competition at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Still in football, Korean Football Association and SKY FC broke into the win column in the NMIFA men's league, while Wild Bill's improved to a 3-0 record after topping MP United A.



In another youth event, the Ol'Aces claimed the championship in the SML Youth Summer/Fall League after edging Titanium, 3-2, in the winner-take-all finals at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

In basketball, PSS/McGraw-Hill pulled off the biggest win of the week in the Shirley's caging with Dave Sablan connecting on a buzzer-beating triple in their 88-87 triumph over Shirley. Fiesta also prevailed last week en route to its five-game winning run.

In the GBL IT&E Cup, Mobil slipped past Proa, 82-81, while FGC booked its second win after routing Andhok's, 72-59.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Grace Christian Academy's Dae Min Jeon bends to receive a serve from Calvary Christian Academy during their semis game in the COPSSA varsity volleyball competition last week at the Whispering Palms court.

PACQUIAO

From Page 28

round in favor of Marquez.

As boos—and cans and bottles—rang down on the ring, Pacquiao celebrated another victory and another huge payday.

"My fans are very happy because they thought I won," Pacquiao said.

He did, but by the narrowest of margins. That was perhaps to be expected considering the previous 24 rounds the two had fought were just as close.

Pacquiao won the 144-pound (65-kilogram) fight on two

scorecards, while the third ringside judge had it a draw. Marquez was so upset after the decision was announced, he stormed out of the ring.

"This was the second robbery and this one was the worst," Marquez said. "We won with clearer punches."

Pacquiao won some rounds with sheer aggression, while Marquez won others with brilliant counterpunching. He picked Pacquiao apart with right hands almost every time he tried to get inside, and landed hard flurries throughout the fight.

One ringside judge had it a 114-114 draw, while two others

avored Pacquiao by 115-113 and 116-112. The Associated Press had it 114-114.

"It's hard when you're fighting your rival and the three judges, too," said Marquez, who was a 7-1 underdog.

The sellout crowd threw bottles and cans toward ringside after the decision was announced, with one full can hitting a ringside writer.

It was the 15th straight win for Pacquiao, who earned a minimum of \$22 million while improving his record to 54-3-2. Marquez, who earned \$5 million, fell to 52-6-1.

The first bout between the two boxers seven years ago

at 125 pounds (57 kilograms) was a draw, and Pacquiao won a split decision in their second bout in 2008 at 130 pounds (59 kilograms).

Ringside punch stats showed just how evenly matched they were in this contest: Pacquiao was credited with landing 176 of 578 punches, while Marquez landed 138 of 436.

The power punches were even closer, with Pacquiao connecting on 117 and to 100 for Marquez—though the Mexican seemed to land the harder punches.

Pacquiao was behind on one scorecard and only ahead by

a point on a second going into the 12th round, and the crowd was on its feet roaring for what they expected to be a classic last round. But both fighters were tentative, brawling only toward the end of the round.

"He was ready for my punches," Pacquiao said. "I thought I blocked a lot of his punches."

Pacquiao found out early he would be in for a long night, taking counter punches from Marquez in the opening rounds while looking for his own opening. He had trouble finding his range all night and when he did get inside, Marquez often moved to the side and landed a

counter right hand.

It was evident that both fighters were so familiar with one another they knew what the other was going to do, and they compensated by fighting in spurts when each had the advantage. Neither ever seemed seriously hurt, though Marquez landed several right hands that snapped Pacquiao's head back and stopped him from coming forward.

The two clashed heads in the ninth round, opening a cut above Pacquiao's right eye, and he was also cut inside his mouth. Marquez wasn't cut, but his face was swollen and his eyes were closing in the later rounds.

LAST

From Page 28

Dela Cruz combined for a gross 64, but without a handicap, they settled for second place. Each team member won a one night stay certificate in a deluxe room at the Hyatt Regency Saipan and dinner certificate for two at Kili Café & Terrace.

In the battle for third place, there was a tie between Team10B's Lorraine Babauta, Terry Guerrero, Shiori Onoue, Sherlyn Jones and Team 6A's

Victor Camacho, John Fegur and Jesse Sablan. The two teams finished with identical gross cards of 70 that worked out into a net tally of 65.2.

Both teams were awarded gift coupons for a 60-minute Swedish massage at I Sagua Spa and a lunch buffet for two at Miyako.

There were no hole-in-one prizes won during the event, but there were a number of side game winners.

3B's Mi Ae Jeon, Young Hi Lee, Lucy Park, and Yang Kim won hole No. 2's speed-ball contest with a time of

1:17:54. Colin Thompson and Shirley Jones prevailed in the male and female longest drive (with an iron) contests with respective drives of 215 and 149 yards. Russ Quinn won the most accurate drive contest on hole No. 9, placing his tee shot 12'5" from the center of the fairway, while Ulysses Kapi- leo had a 195-yard tee shot on hole No. 10 to win the longest drive contest.

James Mitchell won the closest approach on hole No. 11 and Young Hi Lee topped the closest to the hazard con-

test on hole No. 12, resting his ball three feet away from the danger zone.

Meanwhile, Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa thanked everyone for supporting the fundraising tournament that has raised over \$68,000 for the past six years. Proceeds raised from last weekend's event went to the Make-A-Wish Foundation

Make-A-Wish Foundation executive director Victor Camacho was present at the awards ceremony for the fundraiser at the Hyatt Regency Saipan and

also thanked all the golfers and sponsors of the event. Camacho then invited 15-year-old Vincent Santos of Chalan Kanoa and his family as guests of honor at the banquet dinner.

Santos suffers from Osteosarcoma, which is an aggressive type of bone cancer that inflicts 400 people under the age of 20 every year in the U.S. and is the sixth leading cause of cancer in children under the age of 15. He was the recent recipient of assistance from the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The Hyatt Golf Classic was

supported by Saipan Computer Services, Delta Airlines, Marianas Visitors Authority, Bank of Hawaii, Calvo's Select Care, Bison Relations, Triple J Motors and Five Star Wholesale Foods, IT&E, IP&E, Gold's Gym, Tan Holdings, Marianas Variety, 103.9 KZMI, Kautz Glass Co., Ideal Signs, Titan Imports, Quality Water Laboratory, KSPN 2, Pacific Wines and Spirits, Sablan Top Line Cleaning Agency, Docomo Pacific, MARPAC, DFS Galleria, Pacific Islands Club, and Pacific Trading, Corp.

PSS

From Page 28

PSS broke the game wide open midway in the third quarter to extend its streak to four and improve to a 5-1 record for second place in the 10-team field. DFS slid for a share of third place with Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan after falling to a 5-2 card.

DFS stayed in the game until the first four minutes of the third quarter with Dan Barcinas and Pete Iguel trading triples

with James Villacrusis. Iguel's second triple in the third period moved DFS within seven, 45-52, but that was also the team's last basket in that canto, while PSS drilled one basket after another to pull away, 74-45, entering the fourth frame.

Fatigue took its tool on Iguel, Barcinas, and Quincy Johnson, who earlier played in another league and in less than 30 minutes suited up for DFS. Barcinas was held to five points in the second half and scoreless in the fourth after making 19 in the first 20 minutes of play,

while Iguel was limited to two markers in the fourth and had only 10 in the entire game. Johnson was held to seven points. DFS played without Jack Lizama, giving PSS lesser problems on defense.

On offense, PSS had a balance attack with five players breaking it into double figures and three others combining for 21 points. Kelvin Fitial top-scored for PSS with 20, Dave Sablan added 17, Villacrusis chipped in 14, and Walter Mendez and Mel Manibusan contributed 13 and 11, respectively.

Hyatt 89, Wushin 70

The first game last Saturday also resulted in a rout with Hyatt Regency Saipan pounding Wushin.

The victory snapped Hyatt's three-game losing streak and gave the team a 2-4 card, while Wushin absorbed its fourth loss in a row and dropped to a 2-5 slate.

Hyatt limited Wushin to eight points in the first period to take control of the game and never looked back from thereon.

Bernardo Aquino matched the total output of Wushin in the opening canto to lift Hyatt to an early double-digit lead, 20-8. In

the second quarter, Ferdie Tobias caught fire with 10 points to help Wushin cut the deficit to single digit at halftime, 28-35.

However, Hyatt managed to recover in the second half and reestablished its double-figure advantage with multiple players contributing on offense, while only Tobias and Jun Tabora piled up points for Wushin.

First Game

Hyatt Regency Saipan 89 – Umali 19, Castro 19, Devero 15, Aquino 12, Arreza 11, Durant 7, Alipio 4, Manzo 2.

Wushin Corp. 70 – Tabora 33, Tobias 19, Tibayan 7, Villasan 4, O. Ebuon 3, De Jesus 2, Patawaran 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-8, 35-28, 59-48, 89-70.

Second Game

PSS/McGraw-Hill 100 – Fitial 20, Sablan 17, Villacrusis 14, Mendez 13, Manibusan 11, Cabrera 8, Villagomez 7, Itibus 6, Guerrero 4.

DFS Galleria 64 – Barcinas 24, Iguel 10, Chavez 10, Jung 9, Johnson 7, Larrioz 4.

Scoring by quarters: 20-20, 44-31, 74-45, 100-64.

PROA

From Page 28

two games, while the Ol'Aces are winless in two matches. The second game between FGC and Runnin' Rebels was rained-out at halftime and was scheduled to resume yesterday.

Proa built an early 26-16 advantage after the first period with Keoni Chariton and Peter

Mendiola combining for 13 points. Coach Rufino Aguon's wards then went on to lead by as much as 22 in opening minutes of the third period before the Ol'Aces launched a rally midway in that canto.

Tony Diaz scored 11 points in that third-quarter rally to slice the 33-52 halftime deficit to only seven, 58-65, with a full quarter to go. The Ol'Aces then caught up with Proa in the fourth canto

and even wrestled the lead, 71-69, after Freddie Pelisamen's breakaway layup, with over six minutes left in the game.

It was a close match from thereon and the Ol'Aces were still in the game in the last two minutes, behind by only a deuce, 77-75, but committed three costly turnovers to hand Proa the win.

The Ol'Aces had a chance to knot the count when they had the ball at the 77-75 tally, but

Pelisamen's inbound pass to Tony Diaz on the top key went wide and Marvin Rabauliman picked up the loose ball.

Rabauliman then went up for a fastbreak layup and drew an unsportsmanlike foul on Tony Diaz. Rabauliman split his charities and the Ol'Aces were called for another error, while Rabauliman trooped to the foul line again and made both free throws for Proa's 80-75 lead, with less than a min-

ute left on the clock.

The Ol'Aces were called for their third miscue in the home-stretch when Iguel stole an inbound pass for Taj Van Buren. Iguel when for a layup and missed, but Rabauliman was there for a putback that sealed the win for Proa.

Rabauliman top-scored for Proa with 25 points, making 11 of them in the fourth canto to foil the Ol'Aces' rally. Tony

Diaz led the Ol'Aces with his 35 markers.

Proa 86 – Rabauliman 21, Mendiola 12, Norita 10, Chariton 6, Iguel 6, Libuw 6, Johnson 6, Sablan 5, Villacrusis 5, Babauta 4, Barcinas 4.

Ol'Aces 77 – T. Diaz 35, Pelisamen 15, Kenty 9, Van Buren 5, E. Diaz 4, Z. Diaz 5, Olaitiman 4.

Scoring by quarters: 26-16, 52-33, 65-58, 86-77.



**Stern:
'Greedy'
agents hurting
chances of
NBA deal**
25

Saipan Tribune Sports



**Papelbon,
Phillies agree
to \$50-million
contract**
26

28 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pacquiao tops Marquez in narrow decision



Manny Pacquiao, right, of the Philippines, hits Mexico's Juan Manuel Marquez during a WBO welterweight title fight Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, in Las Vegas.

AP

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP BOXING WRITER

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Manny Pacquiao escaped again, in a decision that left Juan Manuel Marquez fuming once again.

PSS/McGraw-Hill routs DFS

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



PSS/McGraw-Hill reached the century mark to demolish DFS Galleria, 100-64, during the second game in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

See **PSS** on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
PSS/McGraw-Hill's Kelvin Fitial goes for a layup against DFS' Won Joo Jung, left, and Pete Iguel during the first quarter of their game in the Shirley's caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



The Filipino sensation was taken to the limit Saturday night before winning a majority decision that infuriated his Mexican opponent and most of the sellout crowd at the MGM Grand arena. The win may have been close, but Pacquiao still managed to continue a remarkable run that has



made him the most exciting fighter in the sport.

In a bruising battle against a counterpuncher who was both accurate and fast, Pacquiao needed the final round on two scorecards to pull out the win. He got it, even though a third judge scored the

See **PACQUIAO** on Page 27

Last Minute rules Hyatt Golf Classic

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



Last Minute's Joe Soares, Will Maui, Eun Taek Jung, and Jaeyon Ju ruled the 16th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic held on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort last Saturday.

The foursome topped a field of 116 golfers with its net score of 63.6. Last Minute finished with a gross 66, but came out the winner as a result of its 2.4 handicap adjustment that was factored in based on participants' scores on the six par 3 holes during their respective rounds. The tournament utilized a two-person scramble format with a double peoria scoring system. Each member of the champion team won a one night stay certificate at the Regency Club room of Hyatt Regency Saipan and a Sunday Brunch for two at Giovanni's.

Team 18A's Jack Salas, J.J. Atalig, Ned Norita, and Joey

See **LAST** on Page 27



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa, left, poses with Eun Taek Jung Jaeyon Ju, Will Maui, and Joe Soares of 16th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic champion Last Minute during the awards banquet held at the Hyatt last Saturday night.



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